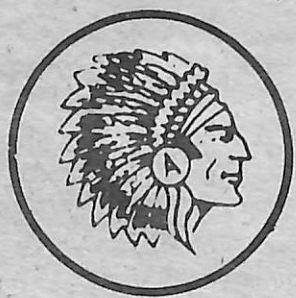


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AGAWAM

Advertiser News

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Volume XXI Number 36

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

September 10, 1998

"Welcome Back, Agawam Students"...



LAST WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND, marked the official start of the 1998-1999 school year in Agawam. IN LEFT PHOTO: Victoria Littlefield, Justin Robinson, Stefanie Littlefield, and Tiffany Littlefield were ready to head back to their classrooms. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Youngsters departing the bus at Granger School. (See related photo on Page 2.) Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

At Monday Night's Meeting...

Berkshire's Oil Storage Delayed

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

At their Monday night meeting, Town Council stalled Berkshire Power's request to store half a million gallons of fuel oil; put the brakes on an ordinance changing the rules for used car dealers; and gave a green light to a slight increase in property tax for both the business and the residential class of taxpayers.

Council Vice President Robert Magovern continued the public hearing on Berkshire Power's application for a license to store 500,000 gallons of number two fuel oil as a backup energy source for the 252 megawatt gas-fired power plant under

construction on Moylan Lane.

Representing Berkshire Power, Springfield Attorney Raipher D. Pellegrino said the company is restricted to using the oil as a backup fuel supply for 30 days each year, but intends to burn oil for substantially fewer than the full 30 days allowed by their air (emissions) permit. Also, the fuel oil can only be used from September through March if the supply of gas to the plant is interrupted or if the state or federal government declares a state of emergency requiring the use of oil.

Pellegrino said even though the cost of fuel oil

has gone down, using gas still makes more economic sense for the company.

"The plant machinery is designed for gas-firing and any consistent use of oil decreases the efficiency of the plant," Pellegrino said.

After more than two hours of testimony from company representatives describing the need for the oil storage tank and the safety features included in its state-of-the-art design, as well as testimony questioning virtually every statement

SEE COUNCIL - Page 4...

Third Time In Four Years...

Agawam's Bond Rating Upgraded Again By Moody's Investors Service

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

The sale of municipal bonds to finance just over half the cost of the five school additions and renovations has resulted in an improved bond rating for the town and a substantial savings in interest over the 20-year life of the bonds.

Last week, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson announced the town has received an A1 rating from Moody's Investors Service on \$10 million in municipal bonds sold to First Union Capital Markets Corporation. The A1 rating represents an upgrade from Moody's prior rating of A2. The upgrade is the third time in four years that Agawam's municipal bond rating has improved.

In June 1997, the town's bond rating received an upgrade from Standard and Poors, from A to A-plus. In 1995, the town's bond rating went from the S&P's BBB rating assigned in 1985 to a rating of A.

Johnson said, "I'm very pleased that the town has improved its Moody's bond rating to A1. The bond rating upgrade reflects our strong financial leadership and the improved financial practices that we have instituted in Agawam during my tenure. It also reflects the strong financial position of our community and our positive track record of quality economic growth."

According to Treasurer/Collector Laurel Placzek, the interest rate has been hovering around five percent in the municipal bond market, but the town was able to obtain a low bid of 4.44880 percent interest over the 20-year repayment schedule of the bond issue.

Pleased with the competition on the bond issue bringing bids from seven firms, Mrs. Placzek said, "The town's strong bond rating, coupled with strong financial and audit reports, are responsible for the lower than market interest rate. The town will save over \$1 million in interest costs over the life of the bond issue as compared with our capital budget estimates."

"Conservative Financial Management"...

In evaluating the town's financial health,

Moody's said, "The upgrade reflects the town's conservative financial management practices, stable tax base, and manageable debt burden. Agawam has a history of conservative financial management. Over the past several years, management has maintained an ample ... General Fund balance, (and) ... built up a stabilization fund, which had a balance of \$1.4 million in Fiscal Year 1998 and is expected to grow to \$1.7 million in Fiscal Year 1999.

"These funds will be used in part to fund capital improvements, including education technology projects in 1999. Recently purchased computer systems have allowed for improved internal budgeting systems, as well as more accurate billing and tax collections, as evidenced by the town's strong 98.6 percent current collections rate. Based on its well-managed finances, Moody's expects the town to enjoy continued financial flexibility," said the Moody's statement.

Johnson said the town would be going to the bond market in February with an issue to cover the rest of the cost of the school expansion projects.

"We purposely split up the bond issue on the schools because we're trying to time our debt in order to stay under the Internal Revenue Service guidelines," Johnson said.

Johnson said his administration has been working hard over the last four years to tighten up the town's financial practices in anticipation of the day when it would be necessary to issue the bonding on the \$19.6 million school expansion projects.

"We've been planning for four years to get this upgrade," Johnson said. "Moody's is the dominant agency and to get a rating improvement from them is difficult. We're elated to get this rating."

Johnson credited Mrs. Placzek, Auditor Carol Taylor, and their staff for the work they've done in helping clear up the town's financial procedures.

"I'm Off To School!"



SEVEN YEAR-OLD Caroline Robidoux (left) is now a second-grade student in the Agawam school system, and her mom, Paula, and two year-old brother, Wade, wished her well on the first day of school last Wednesday, September 2nd. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

All the hometown news with us ... AAN!!!

DO YOU NEED A WILL?



SCENARIO 3:

"I am a single person in my 50's with a modest net worth. If I were to pass away today, my estate would pass to my mother. Why do I need a Will?"

Under this scenario, you may be adversely affecting your mother's eligibility for Medicaid or other benefits by increasing her net worth if you die first.

THE SOLUTION:

There are many factors to consider when planning your estate. Let a professional help you choose the estate plan that is most beneficial to you and your family. Attorney Scott M. Hibbert can prepare your Will and guide you through the necessary steps to protect your loved ones.

Attorney Scott M. Hibbert

is located in Feeding Hills at 546 Springfield Street.

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Free Enrollment Offer! (A \$198 Value!)

*Only for all former Healthy Habits Members
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Were you waiting until fall to find another health club?

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But once you've tried our quality fitness programs and clean facilities,

Meet our professional friendly staff,
and notice our caring family atmosphere,
we're certain you'll stay a while.

That's why we're offering you a **30-day money back guarantee!**

Don't miss this date to join for FREE!

Appointments are recommended for this big day.

Please bring verification of Healthy Habits membership with you.

P.S. ...There is very little Big E traffic here in Feeding Hills!



60 North Westfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030
(413) 786-1460

COUNCIL - from Page 1...

made by Berkshire Power regarding the plant from long-standing opponents of the power plant, the hearing was continued to the council's October 5th meeting.

Concerned Citizens and Businesses spokesman Karl Stieg asked if Berkshire Power was inferring that El Paso Energy, owner of Tennessee Gas Pipeline and a partner in Berkshire Power's parent company, does not have the capacity to supply the plant with gas every day without the need for oil as a backup fuel.

Stieg said the company intends to burn oil to turn a profit because the plant cannot be run economically by burning natural gas exclusively. Other plant opponents said they feared accidents, acts of God, or natural disasters could cause an explosion and fire similar to a 1995 incident touched off by a lightning strike on an oil tank in Oklahoma City.

The oil storage facility has already received a certificate of occupancy from Building Inspector Dominic Urbinati, and Fire Chief David Pisano has already signed off on the license application.

Three Restrictions

Pisano asked the council to include three restrictions on the license: oil deliveries only between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.; staging of delivery vehicles shall be within the confines of Berkshire Power property; and delivery vehicles shall use Route 57 and the Garden Street exit.

"This is a state-of-the-art facility and based on the location, the need and the safety issues I've discussed with Berkshire Power, I find no real reason to disapprove the license," Pisano said.

Pisano said the aboveground storage tank would be fully encased in a concrete dike capable of containing an oil spill that is 110 percent of the tank's volume. Also, the tank must be fully equipped with a fire suppression system and the company is being required to have a supply of fire suppression foam on site as well as furnish the fire department with a supply of the foam to be stored at fire headquarters.

"We're going to have Berkshire Power supply us with the appropriate equipment, supplies, and training (as a safety precaution)," Pisano said. "And, we've mandated that we train once a year with their personnel at the site."

If the council denies the license, Berkshire Power would have the right to appeal to the state Fire Marshall or the Department of Public Safety, Pisano said.

Pisano was on vacation and unable to attend the public hearing. Also absent from the meeting were Council President Donald Rheault (who was ill) and Councilor Dennis Perry (who was on a business trip).

The council was unanimous in agreeing to put off voting on the license until Berkshire Power and plant opponents could gather the necessary information to answer questions posed by individual councilors.

Magovern said he believed that both plant proponents and opponents who had already spoken at the hearing would not be allowed to give further testimony, but would be allowed to present information requested and answer questions from the councilors.

Councilor Gina Letellier grilled Pellegrino on the need to store oil as an alternative fuel supply and raised concerns about the impact of oil delivery trucks on a residential neighborhood, especially during the winter.

Ms. Letellier asked Pellegrino to report back to the council on Berkshire Power's position on possible restrictions the council could add to the license, including requiring that the oil tank be drained during the spring and summer months when air quality standards prohibit the plant from burning fuel oil and refraining from oil tanker deliveries during the hours when school buses are on the road. Ms. Letellier also asked for information on the turning radius of the tanker trucks.

Noting that she had toured the plant with Councilor Jill Simpson in preparation for Monday night's meeting, Councilor Nancy Thompson asked Pellegrino to arrange a tour for the remainder of the council.

"First-hand, on-site information is important and makes for a better informed decision," Ms. Thompson said.

Pellegrino agreed a site visit would be beneficial and pledged to arrange tours of the plant for any council members wishing to view the site.

Slight Tax Increase

With no discussion, the council unanimously approved a measure setting a tax rate that will cost the average homeowner slightly more than a

dollar a month in property taxes this year. Business owners will pay 27 cents more per \$1,000 of assessed value, and homeowners will pay 12 cents more per \$1,000 of assessed value as a result of the one percent increase in taxes approved as part of the town's operating budget for fiscal year 1999 (July '98 through June '99).

Adopting the residential tax factor recommended by Mayor Christopher C. Johnson means that a portion of the residential tax burden is shifted to the business/commercial class. As it has for the last nine years, the council agreed to shift half of the maximum amount allowed by state law from residential to business taxpayers.

According to Johnson, even with the added burden on the business class, Agawam has been able to sustain a tax rate low enough to attract quality business development without offering new businesses tax breaks for their first few years of operation as many surrounding communities have done.

"This is a fair shift of the tax burden from homeowners to businesses," Johnson said. "The tax factor shift was first approved by Council President Don Rheault and me as city councilors 10 years ago. Before that, the town had one tax rate for both classes, but we thought the homeowners should get some benefit from having businesses locate in town."

Johnson said the largest single expense leading to the one percent tax increase is the principle and interest payments on the school expansion projects. Still, the town has been able to maintain a relatively stable tax rate with rates at \$15.88 (residential) and \$21.22 (business) in 1997; \$15.77 (residential) and \$21.22 (business) in 1998; and \$15.89 (residential) and \$21.49 (business) in 1999.

"Even with the slight increase in the tax rate, Agawam still has the lowest tax burden of any major community in Hampden County," Johnson said.

Comparing Agawam's tax rate to five surrounding communities shows this year's higher rate is 11 cents above Chicopee's rate for last year and lower than last year's rates for Holyoke (-\$1.60), Springfield (-\$4.71), West Springfield (-\$1.90), and Westfield (-17 cents). The single tax rate, if residents and businesses were taxed at the same rate, shows Agawam's higher rate for this year is lower than its neighbors' last year rate by as much as \$7.81 in Springfield.

The tax rate approved by the council must also be approved by the State Department of Revenue. The final rate could be adjusted by a few cents, Johnson said.

Tax bills are expected to be in the mail in late September.

For the second time, Town Council unanimously tabled the second reading of an ordinance regulating the way used car dealers can do business. The ordinance had received unanimous support at the first reading in July.

With little discussion, the council agreed to send the measure back for more tinkering by the ordinance committee after the major repairs hammered out by three council committees—rules, licensing, and ordinance—failed to placate used car dealers who say the new rules put an unfair burden on them.

Several dealers urged the council to table the measure so that the dealers can meet with the ordinance committee in order to give their input into the final draft of the proposed changes to the rules governing the licensing of used car lots.

Dealers complained they had not been notified of a joint meeting of the council's rules, ordinance, and licensing committees held last month at the library and were, therefore, unable to discuss the impact of the changes on their businesses.

At presstime, no date had been set for the dealers to meet with the ordinance committee.

Fire Wise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano
Some Tips On Choosing And Using A Fire Extinguisher

Most fires start small, and it is at this stage that if a fire extinguisher is handy, it could put out the fire or keep it from spreading. You should only attempt to fight a fire with a fire extinguisher when it is small and in its early stage.

If your exit could potentially be blocked by fire, don't attempt to fight the fire. Instead, get out of the building.

The Agawam Fire Department provides the following hints on purchasing and using a fire extinguisher:

- Most fire extinguishers operate this way:
 1. Pull the locking pin.
 2. Aim at the base of the flames.
 3. Squeeze the handle.
 4. Sweep back and forth over the burning area.
- The contents of most extinguishers last less than 30 to 60 seconds. Aim carefully at the base of the flame.

• Fire extinguishers are meant to fight only small fires (no bigger around than a trash can). Fighting too large a fire can be dangerous.

• Whenever a fire occurs, get everyone out first and call the Agawam Fire Department at 911. Then use your extinguisher if the fire is still small enough.

• All fire extinguishers are not alike. They are marked with the letter(s) indicating the type of fire they can put out:

"A" — Ordinary fuels such as wood, cloth, paper, rubber, and plastics.

"B" — Flammable liquids like gasoline, kerosene, oil, paint, and kitchen grease.

"C" — Electricity.

"D" — Metals.

• Purchase a multi-purpose extinguisher with a "BC" or "ABC" label for typical home use.

• Install extinguishers.

• Check the pressure gauge on your extinguisher periodically to see if it needs recharging. Look in the phone book for professionals to fill and recharge extinguishers.

• Always refill or replace a used extinguisher immediately. Never put it back empty. An empty extinguisher is dangerous for someone else to use.

For further information, call the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

**State Rep. Keenan
 To Speak At A.R.E.'s
 September 15th Mtg.**

On Tuesday, September 15th, A.R.E. (Agawam Retired Employees) will sponsor a presentation by State Representative Dan Keenan.

He will provide the audience with an update on Hampden County and many of the issues concerning Agawam and its retirees. A.R.E. will also be presenting the Bylaws, the Articles of Organization, and the Annual Report to the membership for approval, prior to sending it to the state for official status.

This meeting will be held at Quail Run Estates on Cardinal Drive (off Cooper Street), Agawam, at 10:00 a.m. At 11:00 a.m., the staff of Quail Run will offer a free tour of the lovely facilities to any interested members.

Don't miss this meeting. New members are always welcome.

**The Agawam Advertiser•News**

786-7747

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786-8137

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Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you!

— Agawam Obituaries —

Frank B. Jones

Frank B. Jones, 71, of 26 Wellfleet Drive, West Springfield, died at a local nursing home. He was a 25-year salesman for Station WWLP-TV22.

Born in Springfield, he was raised in Agawam and moved to West Springfield in 1958. He was a World War II Navy veteran.

He leaves his wife, Irene (Wiater) Jones; two sons, Steven of Glastonbury, Connecticut and Jeffrey of Enfield; a brother, Dr. Lewis of West Springfield; and a grandson.

The funeral was at West Springfield Curran-Jones Funeral Home and St. Thomas Church, with the burial at St. Michael's Cemetery in Springfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, 1111 Elm St., Suite 9a, West Springfield, 01089.

Reginald A. Poirier

Reginald A. "Reggie" Poirier, 79, of 193 River Road, Agawam died in a local nursing home. He was employed by Longview Fiber Co. of West Springfield, and retired in 1981.

He previously worked for the former Livingston Mill in Holyoke. Born in St. Armand, Canada, he lived in Chicopee and Vermont before moving to Agawam 27 years ago. He was a World War II Army veteran, a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church, and a former usher.

He leaves his wife, Mildred K. (Kokofski) Poirier; a son, Ronald of Holyoke; a daughter, Shirley Belden of Sierra Vista, Arizona; four brothers, Veryl, Armand, and Francis, all of Florida, and James of California; four sisters, Madeline of Colorado, Esther, Arlene, and Alice of Florida; two grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

The funeral was at Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam and in the church, with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Pioneer Valley Hospice, P.O. Box 51946, Springfield, MA 01151.

Adaline J. DiLullo

Adaline J. (Natale) DiLullo, 90, formerly of 66 Meadow St., died in a local nursing home. She was born in Beacon, New York, and lived in Agawam for 83 years.

She was a seamstress for the former Whitney Taylor Co. and Carter Co. of Springfield for 25 years. She was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church.

Her husband, Michael A. DiLullo, Jr., died in 1991, and a son, Michael A., in 1997. She leaves a son, Richard A. of Agawam; a brother, Albert Tessicini of Vista, California; a sister, Rose Mezzetti, of Feeding Hills; six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

The funeral was at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home and the church, with the burial in Center Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Brightside for Families and Children, 2112 Riverdale St., West Springfield 01089.

Theresa M. Martin

Theresa M. Martin, 78, of 128 Main Street, Agawam, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

She was a long-time employee of the Westvaco Co. in Springfield.

She was born in Westfield and lived in Agawam since 1954, where she was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church and its Catholic Women's Club.

She also was a member of the Nocturnal Adoration Society.

She leaves two sisters, Eleanor Roddy of Holyoke and Margaret Stacy of Merietta, Ohio.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam, with a Mass in the church and burial in St. Mary's Cemetery, Westfield.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Open Pantry, 287 State Street, Springfield, MA 01105.

Agawam Democrats Slate Breakfast For October 25th

The Agawam Democratic Committee held their first meeting of the new season on Wednesday, September 2, 1998 at the Peirce Meeting Room of the Agawam Police Station.

The major order of business for this meeting was preparation for their bi-annual breakfast fundraiser.

The Agawam Democratic Committee is pleased to announce that this year's breakfast will take place on Sunday, October 25, 1998 at Chez Josef banquet facility, 176 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam. The breakfast will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Tickets are available at \$20 each from any member of the Agawam Democratic Committee. Advertising and well wishes for the program may be purchased by contacting Stanley Chmielewski at 786-6859 or Rosemary Sandlin at 786-6053 or 786-3254.

This fall's breakfast will be held to honor longtime Democratic party activist and leader, the late Salvator A. Scibelli. It is hoped and urged that all the friends of the late Salvator Scibelli and his family will attend the breakfast to honor the good man and his great family.

Bonavita Thanks Supporters Of Malone Campaign

Anthony C. Bonavita, Agawam coordinator for the Joe Malone for Governor campaign, has thanked Malone supporters in Agawam for their hard work.

Bonavita stated, "The September 15th primary is upon us, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Joe Malone supporters who helped in his Agawam campaign."

"With the hustle and bustle of everyday life, it is gratifying to see people willing to work hard for a candidate whom they believe in. Joe Malone is an inspirational leader in the Massachusetts Republican Party. He has a positive vision for the future of Massachusetts."

Bonavita continued, "I urge Republicans and unenrolled voters to consider voting for Joe Malone. The hard work of his supporters is indicative of their belief that Joe Malone will be a great Governor."

"Specifically, I would like to thank Susan Euliano, William Euliano, John Negrucci, Adele Bonavita, Vincent Callahan, and Joseph Langone," concluded Bonavita.

Undecided Voters May Hold Key

Anthony C. Bonavita, Agawam coordinator for Joe Malone, Republican candidate for Governor, urges undecided voters to consider Malone.

Bonavita stated, "In a Republican primary, the undecided voters' and unenrolled (Independent) voters could be key factors in the outcome."

"I respectfully ask these voters to study the platforms of each candidate. Polls do not vote,

people do. Every vote counts and in a primary, depending on the turnout numbers, the undecided voters could decide the election as they make up their minds."

"Joe Malone has run an issue-oriented campaign and clearly set forth his values. We urge the undecided voters to support Joe Malone," concluded Bonavita.

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So don't go it alone, turn to your neighbor -- Canary Blomstrom.

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Veterans' Corner... Vets' Health Screening Fair Coming To Big E Grounds

by Ruth C. Bitzas
Veterans' Agent — 786-0400, Ext. 236/237

This week, we had several inquiries on the Veterans' Health Screening Fair to be held at the Eastern States Exposition, September 18th through October 4th.

Please be advised that this event will be held in the New England Center Building. I have also been advised that an exhibit of the PT 109 will be on display, and that the last survivor assigned to PT 109 will be on hand.

Senator Kennedy and Congressman Neal will visit as well, according to Mr. George Ponte, Events Coordinator for the VA Hospital in Northampton.

LATEST NEWS ON WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL PLANNED IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

(The following information was taken from the September issue of "The Stars and Stripes.")

A World War II memorial designed for the Mall in central Washington has passed an important stage in a long approval process.

A recent commission meeting approved a revised design submitted by the American Battle Monuments Commission, but asked for some minor refinements and more details of design elements such as sculptures, emblems, plaques, and inscriptions.

The memorial would be on the existing site of the Rainbow Pool, between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial. A pool would survive, reduced in size by 15 percent and sunk six or seven feet below street level.

The concept includes a lowered plaza around the pool, parapet walls surmounted by etal and stone screens, and two memorial arches.

The focal point is an open ceremonial area at the western apex of the complex to contain inscriptions and a "Torch of Freedom" yet to be designed.

"The imposing mass of the previous design has been removed. Other positive features of the new design concept include increasing the use of water, using elm trees to form an enclosure, and providing a memorial with the potential to have a strong central focus," the planning commission said.

But the National Capital Planning Commission also said it wanted changes in the metal fencing on top of the parapet walls and clearer definition of the ceremonial area and the torch design.

The Mall, the monumental showpiece of the nation's capital, is a wide swath of grass stretching about two miles between the Lincoln Memorial to the west and the Capitol to the east.

Along the sides lie the White House, many of the Smithsonian Institution buildings and other national landmarks.

OUR OWN PLANNED HONOR ROLL: The following is a list of Agawam's World War II veterans whose last names begin with "P" and "Q."

Please contact our office at 786-0400, ext. 236/237, at the Agawam Town Hall with any questions you may have about the Honor Roll. If you feel a particular name may be missing, either contact that person or (if it's a family member) give us a call and we'll help as much as possible to help you verify eligibility.

WWII HONOR ROLL - "P" & "Q"

Albert J. Panetti, Clarence W. Parker, George E. Paro, Emile L. Paro, Ernest I. Paro, Armond C. Pasquale, Edward T. Paszkowski, Leonard D. Paulson, Alfred R. Penna, Henry H. Perusse, Carl B. Peterson, William M. Peterson, Frank Petruzzello, Gaetano O. Petruzzello.

Robert W. Pickett, Everett F. Pinder, Anthony Pisano, Felix Pisano, Joseph L. Pisano, Emilio A. Placido, Newell J. Platt, Felix Poggi, William Pohner, Kenneth M. Pond, Everett H. Pond, Charles W. Porter, Ernest Powers, Jr.

Neil Powers, George E. Prentiss, Ralph E. Proctor, Arthur N. Provost, John J. Provost, Earle E. Provost, Samuel Provost, Frederick R. Pruczinski, Daniel R. Pugh, John S. Pugh.

Frederick H. Quackenbush, Robert H. Quackenbush, William C. Quackenbush, Eugene J. Query, John W. Quirk.

* * *

Ruth C. Bitzas'
"Veterans' Corner"
is another reason
why you turn our
pages ... AAN!!!

* * *

Veterans To Be Briefed On New Cemetery Project

On September 17th, Mr. Robert McKean, Director of State Veterans' Cemeteries, will present an update on the new veterans' cemetery in Agawam at the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke at 8:30 a.m. In the auditorium, the program will include artist renderings and a question-and-answer session about the new cemetery.

Before and after the program, visitors may get information and pre-applications for the State Veterans' Cemetery projects, as well as information about enrolling at the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke for outpatient or long-term care services.

Veterans interested in any of these programs should bring their separation papers.

ADVERTISER NEWS

State Rep. Keenan To Hold Office Hours On Sept. 16th & 23rd

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan will hold office hours on Wednesday, September 16th and 23rd, between 10:30 and 11:45 a.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, Meadowbrook Manor, Agawam.

Members of the public are invited to attend to express their comments and concerns to issues facing the district and state. Representative Keenan welcomes the opportunity to meet and hear from his constituents.

Rep. Keenan may also be reached at his district office at 342 Springfield Street, Agawam (786-4545).

**Don't forget to vote on
Tuesday, September 15th!**

* * *

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the
Commonwealth

HAMPDEN SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Agawam

GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote in Primaries to vote at:

- Precinct 1 - Robinson School, 65 Begley Street**
- Precinct 2 - Clifford M. Granger, South Westfield Street**
- Precinct 3 - Agawam High School, 760 Cooper Street**
- Precinct 4 - Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street**
- Precinct 5 - Benjamin J. Phelps School, School Street**
- Precinct 6 - James Clark School, 65 Oxford Street**
- Precinct 7 - Agawam Junior High School, Springfield Street**

on **TUESDAY, THE FIFTEENTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1998** from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the State Primary for the candidates of political parties for the following offices:

GOVERNOR	FOR THE COMMONWEALTH
LT. GOVERNOR	FOR THE COMMONWEALTH
ATTORNEY GENERAL	FOR THE COMMONWEALTH
SECRETARY	FOR THE COMMONWEALTH
TREASURER	FOR THE COMMONWEALTH
AUDITOR	FOR THE COMMONWEALTH
REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS	Congressional District
COUNCILLOR	Councillor District
SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT	Senatorial District
REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT	Representative District
DISTRICT ATTORNEY	District
SHERIFF	County

Given under our hands this 8th day of September 1998.

PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL

Richard M. Theroux
Town Clerk

Keenan Announces Bid For Reelection

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan is pleased to announce his candidacy for reelection to the Massachusetts House of Representatives for the Third Hampden District seat. Keenan was first elected to the seat in 1994, which includes the communities of Agawam, Blandford, Granville, Russell, Southwick, and Tolland.

Keenan's first priority and responsibility is representation of his constituency throughout the district and at the State House in Boston. "My voice is the voice of my constituents," Keenan said. "Whether I meet with constituents at my district office, in the community at office hours, or while I am out touring local businesses or schools, I never fail to gain a deeper understanding and perspective on an issue or piece of legislation."

During the past legislative session, Keenan has built upon his successes, which include funding for the veterans' cemetery in Agawam, full funding of education reform, increased local aid, job growth initiatives, and a continued balanced budget.

During the 1997-1998 legislative session, Keenan took the lead on correcting the injustice created by the abolition of Hampden County government. Keenan was the author and sponsor of legislation to remove the unfair burden put upon communities belonging to the Hampden County Retirement System.

"This issue was about fairness - fairness to my constituents and communities," Keenan said. "If the Commonwealth can take the assets, why can't they take the liabilities as well?"

Keenan was also a co-sponsor of legislation to exempt military pensions from taxation which was enacted during the 1997-1998 session. Prior to this legislation, Massachusetts was the only state to tax a military pension. Additional highlights of the 1997-1998 legislative session include passage of the largest tax cut in Massachusetts history, initiatives to protect our environment, and expansion of health care to low to moderate income children and senior citizens. Keenan served on the Education, Insurance, and

Harshbarger Meets Rep. Keenan And Son...



ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL in Western Massachusetts recently, Scott Harshbarger (left), Attorney General and the Democratic gubernatorial frontrunner, made stops in Agawam, Springfield, and Southampton. Along the way, he met up with State Representative Dan Keenan and his two year-old son, Jack, at a picnic at the Sons of Erin in Westfield.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD

The Agawam Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, September 17, 1998 at 7:15 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Agawam. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Thomas Russo, Jr. for a Definitive Subdivision Plan of Logan Woods Estates. This proposed subdivision will consist of ten (10) lots to be located off of Garden Street and Franklin Street Extension.

By Order of Charles R. Calabrese, Chairman
Agawam Planning Board

Published: September 10, 1998

Taxation committees, and maintained a 99 percent voting record at the State House over the past two years.

Keenan's efforts have also earned him recognition from two local organizations which awarded him with Legislator of the Year awards. In 1998, Keenan was recognized by the Western Massachusetts Town and City Clerks Association, and in 1997 by the Western Massachusetts Chiropractors Association.

"I will continue to articulate and promote policies that are of benefit to this and future generations of the Commonwealth," Keenan stated. "I am proud and honored to serve the public, and look forward to future service."

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon...

**Now
Open**

New Ownership

(formerly Village Lounge)

CHECKARDS



SPORTS PUB & GRILL

1340 Springfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA • 786-4819

**Come and watch all your favorite sports teams.
We have NESN ... NASCAR races.**



September 7th—

"Monday Night Football" starts 8:15 p.m.

Free halftime pizza buffet every Monday night!

"Checkards" is the new place to be...



**Now
Open**

* Free Pool *

Tuesday and Wednesday nights,
6 p.m. to 11 p.m. —
6 magnificent tables
to play on.

* Full Lunch Menu *

Come and enjoy our
daily lunch specials.
Take-out service
is also available



Families



AFTER "TAP-O-MANIA" was over for another year, April Mosher (right) visited Radio City Music Hall and had her photo taken with one of the Rockettes.

Mary Ann's Dance Teacher Participates In NYC's 'Tap-O-Mania'

Lots of traffic and lots of noise are not the only things you can find in New York City. On one recent day in particular, April Mosher, a dance instructor at Mary Ann's Studio, had come to dance in the streets — along with 6,708 other people there — for Macy's 20th annual "Tap-O-Mania" day.

Each year, Macy's sponsors this event to retain the Guinness Book of Records title of "The World's Largest Assembly Of Tap Dancers To Perform A Single Routine." During the week preceding the event, Mosher had gone to New York to learn the routine because on "Tap-O-Mania" day, she would be there to assist with the teaching of all the dancers that showed up.

This year's trip to New York for "Tap-O-Mania" was a bit different from last year's trip for Mosher, as she did not go alone; in fact, she brought a bus with her. Combining her full-time job as a travel agent with Stevens Travel and her part-time job at Mary Ann's, Mosher went as the escort of a tour bus.

Did Macy's beat last year's record? You bet they did! This year's total count of 6,708 dancers was 32 dancers ahead of last year's record.

If anyone is interested in participating in this event next year, you can give Mosher a call at Stevens Travel, where she will put you on her mailing list to be notified when the 1999 date is set.

"Centennial Grove Dedication" At Robinson State Park

The Department of Environmental Management invites you to celebrate the first 100 years of the Massachusetts Forests and Parks System at Robinson State Park on Sunday, September 13th.

Activities will begin at 12:00 noon with a Centennial Grove Dedication. During the ceremony, the Forests and Parks System will celebrate its centennial and also thank the community that has worked hard to preserve and enhance the park over the years.

Other activities will follow the ceremony, including:

- * Park staff will serve the Centennial cake.
- * Farmington and Westfield River Basin Watershed team leader Michael Parker will present a program explaining the importance of watersheds and how to protect them.
- * The Westfield River Watershed Association will give a hands-on canoeing and kayaking demonstration, with a special thank-you to Scott Cook of Wilderness Experience Unlimited.
- * Agawam's Al Gagliarducci of Gag's Grabber Lures, Inc., will demonstrate a few of his personal techniques and tricks for catching fish.

All activities will be finished by 2:00 p.m. and are free and open to the public. A valid Massachusetts fishing license is needed for fishing activities.

For further information, contact Robinson State Park at 786-2877.

Mike Wollmershauser To Conduct Karate Classes At Fitness First

Grandmaster 8th Degree black belt in Hap Ki Do and Master 5th Degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do, Mike Wollmershauser, will be conducting karate classes again this fall at Fitness First.

The fall session begins September 16th for adults and on September 17th for children, ages seven through 12.

Fitness First offers Hap Ki Do karate to all adults on Wednesday nights from 8:00-9:30 p.m. Each class lasts one hour and a half and meets once a week. Programs run for eight weeks and continue through June with belt advancements.

Tae Kwon Do is Fitness First's children's programming. This class meets every Thursday from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. The class lasts one hour, runs for eight weeks, and continues through the school year. Promotions are available.

Anyone interested in signing up can contact Master Mike at 786-8290. If you sign up for two sessions at one time, you get a free uniform! (\$27 value!) Cost for Fitness First members is \$55 for eight weeks; non-members, \$65 for eight weeks.

Jr. Women's Club To Meet September 15th

The Agawam Junior Women's Club will hold its first meeting of the new season on Tuesday, September 15th at 7:30 p.m. at the Captain Charles Leonard House.

"Happy Retirement!"



ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT, Town Nurse Marilyse Rivers was honored during a party held recently at the Agawam Senior Center. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Sept. 15th Deadline For Next Citizens Police Academy

Town residents or business owners interested in attending the Agawam Police Department's sixth Citizens Police Academy can pick up an application at the Police Station on Springfield Street.

The academy will be held on 10 consecutive Tuesdays from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. in the Police Station's Community Room beginning September 22nd and ending on November 24th.

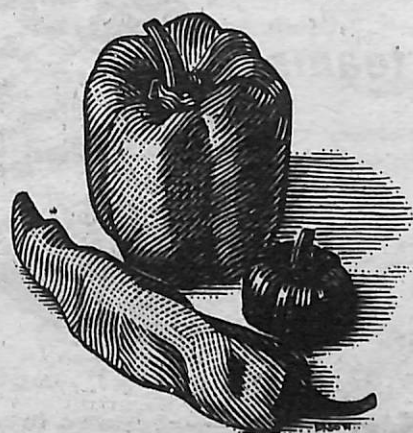
The class is limited to 15 participants, and the application deadline is September 15th.

Ballroom Dancing To Start At Senior Center This Sunday

Starting this Sunday, September 13th, ballroom dancing will take place at the Agawam Senior Center from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

The cost is \$2.50 per dancer, and music will be provided by the Joe Pamela Duet.

For further information, contact the Agawam Senior Center at 786-0400, ext. 242/243.



"You can already feel the change in the air; the light is somehow different—it won't be long before we're wearing sweaters and wishing it were Summer again. But right now is a great time for canning, freezing, making relish, and eating—everything is in season and everything tastes great! Beans, corn, peppers, tomatoes, melons, lettuce, eggplant, squash; if you eat it, chances are we grow it!"

E. Cecchi Farms 1131 SPRINGFIELD STREET Feeding Hills

"Everything you'd grow if you had 40 acres."

Discount Liquors

Feeding Hills Center
1360 Springfield Street
786-8471

Phipps

September Sale



Prices Effective
Through
September 30th

Cigars ... Cigars ... Cigars!!!
FOR A GREAT VARIETY OF CIGARS, VISIT
AGAWAM'S BEST WALK-IN HUMIDOR!!!

LIQUORS

Seagram's
7
(1.75 Ltr.)
\$13.99

Seagram's
VO
(1.75 Ltr.)
\$17.99

Absolut
Vodka
(1.75 Ltr.)
\$23.49



Captain
Morgan
Spiced
Rum
(1.75 Ltr.)
\$18.49

Bailey's
Irish
Cream
(750 ml.)
\$15.99



Ron
Roberto
Rum
(1.75 Ltr.)
\$10.99

Jenkins'
Vodka
(1.75 Ltr.)
\$8.99

BEER SPECIALS

Miller
Genuine Draft
(Bar Bottles - Case)
\$10.99
Plus Deposit



Rolling Rock
(12 Pk. Bottles)
\$7.99
Plus Deposit

Coors Lite
(30 Pk. Cans)
\$15.99
Plus Deposit



Coors
(30 Pk. Cans)
\$15.99
Plus Deposit

Miller
Genuine Draft Lite
(Bar Bottles - Case)
\$10.99
Plus Deposit

Pete's Oktoberfest
(12 Pk. Bottles)
\$9.99
Plus Deposit

George Killian's
Irish Red
(12 Pk. Bottles)
\$8.99
Plus Deposit

JACK DANIELS COCKTAILS

Lynchberg Lemonade * Cactus Kicker * Downhome Punch
Red-Eye Jack * Tennessee Tea * Blackberry Jack
Watermelon Spike * Hurricane Punch

\$3.75 Each
or **2/\$6.99**

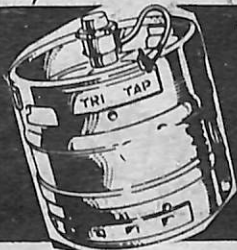
SEPTEMBER WINE SPECIALS

Livingston Cellars (3 Ltr.)
Burgundy, Red Rose, French Colombard, Blush
Chablis, Rhine White Grenache **\$6.49**

Franzia (5 Ltr. Bag/Box)
Chardonnay, Cabernet, Merlot **\$14.99**
White Zinfandel, Chianti, Burgundy **\$10.99**
Most Others **\$7.49**

Martini & Rossi Asti Spumante (750 ml.) **\$8.49**
Cambria Chardonnay 1996 Katherine's Vineyard
(750 ml.) **\$11.99**

Michel Picard Merlot D'oc (750 ml.) **\$6.99**
Catania 1994 Cabernet Sauvignon (750 ml.) ... **\$12.99**
Sutter Home White Zinfandel (1.5 Ltr.) **\$6.99**



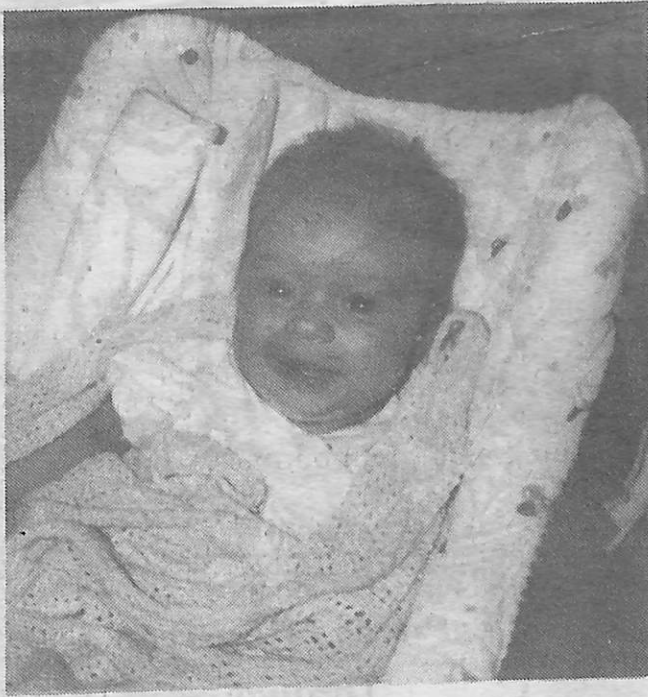
Phipps Discount Liquors At Three Locations:

PHIPPS
1360 SPFLD. ST.
FEEDING HILLS
786-8471

MR. PHIPPS
111 NO. ELM
WESTFIELD
568-8343

MRS. PHIPPS
RTE. 20
WESTFIELD
568-4377

We Now Have
Full Lottery
Services
NOT RESPONSIBLE
FOR TYPOS



JENNA CLAIRE BONASONI

The Bonasoni Family Announces Birth Of Daughter, Jenna Claire

Linda & Steve Bonasoni would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Jenna Claire.

Jenna was born on July 10, 1998 and weighed five pounds, four ounces, and was 19 inches long.

Her proud grandparents are Joyce & Ken Peck of Feeding Hills, and Claire & Dan Bonasoni of Ridgefield, CT.

Jenna was welcomed home by her 10 year-old sister, Egypt, and six year-old brother, Jacob.

Trips Offered By Agawam Senior Ctr.

Attention travelers! Take advantage of fall travel from the Agawam Senior Center.

On Thursday, September 24th, a trip to Stockbridge and Lee is planned with lunch at Dakota's of Pittsfield. Choice of Rockwell or Chesterfield. Cost is \$32.

On Monday, October 5th, a "Vermont Foliage" trip is planned, with lunch at Woodstock Inn. Cost is \$45.

On Thursday, November 19th, the Senior Center will sponsor a trip to Radio City, a Rockettes' show, and the Mayflower Hotel on the Park for \$92.

For more information and reservations, call Joan at the Agawam Senior Center, 786-0400, ext. 242.

Steak Roast At Spfld. Turnverein

The Springfield Turnverein of Agawam, 176 Garden Street, Feeding Hills, will have a Steak Roast on Saturday, September 12th beginning at 6:00 p.m.

This event is sponsored by the Ladies' Glee Club and the Men's Singing Section of the club. The menu will include steak, baked potato, corn, coffee, and dessert. Reservations may be made by calling Christa at 786-0143 or the club at 786-0924.

Following dinner, "Western Comfort" Band will play for your dancing and listening pleasure beginning at 7:00 p.m. If you are unable to attend the dinner, you are invited to join us for the music.

All of our friends and theirs are invited to join us for an entertaining evening.

Best local news...

Represent Your Community & Earn Extra Money!

Become a **Neighbor to Neighbor** Community Representative. Work as an advertising and public relations person in your home town. Welcome your new neighbors and get to know your community leaders, local businesses and professionals. Flexible hours to fit family needs. Openings available in Agawam and Southwick. For more details call

786-0244



Neighbor to Neighbor of America, Inc.®

Children's Swimming And Gym Instruction Scheduled For This Fall At Fitness First

There's many swimming and gym classes that still have spaces available for students this fall at Fitness First. All classes meet once per week for eight weeks beginning the week of September 21st.

Here's a list of classes that have spaces available:

WATER BABIES: Ages 9-15 months. Class meets on Thursday from 5:00-5:30 p.m. A playful parenting program specially designed for children and parents to share a special time together in the pool. Parent and child will play, sing, and splash in a secure, caring environment which creates a positive attitude towards water and exercise while encouraging motor skill development. Children who are not potty trained must wear a swim diaper.

LITTLE DIPPERS: Ages 15 months-2½ years. Class meets on Tuesday from 9:30-10:15 a.m. A playful parenting program specially designed for children and parents to share a special time together in the pool. Parent and child will play, sing, and splash in a secure, caring environment which creates a positive attitude towards water and exercise while encouraging motor skill development. Children who are not potty trained must wear a swim diaper.

MIDGET MANIA/LITTLE DIPPERS: Ages 15½ months-2½ years. Class meets on Thursday evenings from 5:30-6:15 p.m. This class is geared to a child's first experience in water WITH their parent. A positive, fun water awareness is designed to enhance the child's ability to become confident in the water. In this class, we begin by teaching the basic fundamentals of swimming such as blowing bubbles, "reach & pull," getting the face wet, splashing, and floating on their backs. Class will alternate each week, swimming and gym. Class begins with swimming the first week.

NOVICE SWIM & GYM: Ages 3½-5 years. Class meets on Mondays from 12:15-1:45 p.m. or Wednesday from 9:30-11:00 a.m. This class teaches the swimmer to get into water alone,

blow bubbles, bob 10 times in chest deep water, float, kick (with support, if necessary), and move arms for front crawl. The swimming portion is followed by a 30-minute gym period in Studio II that focuses on our new obstacle course, trampoline, and slides.

NOTE: THE CLASSES LISTED BELOW REQUIRE CHILDREN TO TAKE A "SKILLS TEST" PRIOR TO ENROLLING IN THE CLASS. SKILLS TESTS WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th AT FITNESS FIRST'S POOL. Last names beginning with A-L will be tested between 4:15-4:45 p.m. Last names beginning with M-Z will be tested between 4:45-5:15 p.m. Anyone who missed this week's testing should call Fitness First at 786-1460 and speak to Sue.

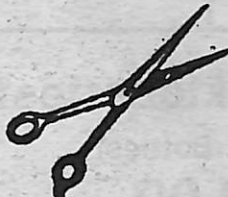
BEGINNER SWIM. Ages vary depending upon level of skill. Class meets Wednesdays from 4:15-5:00 p.m., Thursdays from 4:15-5:00 p.m., or Saturdays from 9:15-10:00 a.m. This program teaches the swimmer to hold his/her breath and swim under water, float, perform the back crawl and front crawl, jump into the pool, and turn over from front to back and back to front.

ADVANCED BEGINNER. Ages vary depending upon level of skill. Class meets Wednesdays from 5:15-6:00 p.m. or Thursdays from 6:15-7:00 p.m. This class teaches the swimmer to bob 15 times in deep water, tread water for two minutes, perform rotary breathing, swim 1½ lengths of the pool, reverse direction at wall, scull, glide with push off, breaststroke, and scissors kick. Introduces the student to the front crawl, backstroke, sidestroke, and breaststroke.

INTERMEDIATE. Ages vary depending upon level of skill. Class meets Saturdays from 10:15-11:00 a.m. This class will teach the swimmer alternate breathing, stride jump, breaststroke, sidestroke, butterfly kick, extensions of the front and back crawl, and open front and back turns.

For more information, please call Fitness First at 786-1460.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!



ODYSSEY II

**Community Shops Shopping Center
1325 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills
789-4700**


Hair Styling • Nail Technicians

Introducing
Jean Ranco
As Our New Nail Technician
Call Jean For An Appointment Today

Or Call
Manager/Hairstylist
Gay Curran
Hairstylist
Linda Ruggiero

We Use The Finest Lines
Of Hair & Nail Care Products

Nexus * Joico * Paul Mitchell
Crew For Men * Graham Webb
And All-Natural Tri-Products
O.P.I. & Creative Nail Products



AHS's Class Of 1978 Seeks "Missing" Alumni For Reunion

The Agawam High School Class of 1978 will be holding its 20-Year Class Reunion on Saturday evening, November 28, 1998 at the Tekoa Country Club in Westfield.

Invitations have been sent out, however, we are unable to find the following classmates:

Chris Armand, Gladys Ayala, Ann-Marie Barry, Mary-Ann Benedict, Alan Bittner, Victor Bor-tolussi, Neil Brown, Rebecca Brown, Janice Caramazza, Victor Cestari, Steven Chesley, Suzanne Chicoine, Joseph Cignoli, Michael Clark, Marc Colcombe, Rhonda Comforte, Jeff Cosenzi, Ronald Couture, Laura DeMusis, Michael Donovan, Timothy Drane, Daniel Duffy, Lauren (Dunn) Cunningham, Loretta Farber, Stephen Ferrero, Jane Finau, Michael Folini, Catherine Foote, Steven French, Dennis Gaynor, Sandra Ghidoni, Frank Gramolini, Tina Gravel, Linda (Codet) Jenks, Marcy Harris, James Hill, Michael Holzman, Janet Houle, Deborah Howe.

Also, David Hudson, Daniel Johnson, Eileen Kane, David Kelly, Bill Knight, Angela Kolnicki, Gwen Kononitz, Luana (Lamoureux) Bisson, Steve Larrabee, Ann Liddell, Bill McLellen, Robert Mahoney, Daniel Manhue, Sue Manning, Raymond Margosiak, Laurie Marino, Elizabeth Marquis, Roger Mason, Alden Miller, Eileen Moriarty, Robert Nahajlo, Caren Ouimet, Cynthia Parent, Tom Paul, Leonard Peltier, Maria Persiico, Sheila (Moriarty) Phillips, Tammie Poulos, Debra (Schebel) Riddley, Edward Rogers, Ralph Rozell, Dawn Sanders, Brian Shaw, Daniel Stachowicz, Anne Stevens, John Sweeney, Marissa Tangredi, Teresa Tenerowicz, Ralph Thresher, Wayne Van Newtenthoven, Lisa Villeuve, Janet Webb, Thomas Welch, Richard Whalley, Laurie (Whitney) Wentworth, and Andrew Wojnicki.

If you know the whereabouts of any of these classmates or if you are a member of the Class of 1978 and did not receive an invitation, please call Shelley (Borgatti) Reed at 413-786-4960 or Lisa (Kamyk) Johnson at 413-789-2335.

Agawam High's Class Of 1973 To Hold 25th Reunion In November

It sure doesn't seem like 25 years have gone by!!! The Agawam High School's Class of 1973 25-year reunion will be held at the Log Cabin in Holyoke, November 27th at 6:30 p.m. sharp!

This elegant affair will be entertained by the BRASS ATTACK eight-piece band. The invitations have been sent out and many classmates are still missing. All R.S.V.P.'s are needed back to confirm your reservation.

ABSOLUTELY NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR. Other classes, faculty, and friends are welcome to join us.

If you can help locate any of the following missing classmates or have any class memorabilia or old photos, please contact Susan Borgatti Meunier at 786-6669 or Steve Richter at 569-3214.

David Ainsworth, Kevin Armstrong, Lisa Baz-zano Sibilia, Chip Benson, David Blanch, Robert Bouley, John Brame, Lorraine Brazeau, Thomas Brunelle, Constance Buynicki, Darlene Cardone, Irene Cesan Thompson, Lynn Cirillo, Claudia Cun-ningham, Martin Daglio, Richard Deblois, Cynthia Enderly, Tom Folger, Candace Gallucci, Deb Gormley.

Nancy George, Stephen Grimaldi, Susan Hamel, Lorie Harris, David Harriman, Steven Hebert, Nancy Hill, Diane Jenks Voudren, Joanne Kelley, Joan Lavallee Battles, Linda MacPherson Schmidt, Fran Marchand, Harlod Martin, Ann Mc-Caffrey, Edward Meade, Colleen Meissner Dupre, Dan Melbourne, Diane Montagna, Chris Muldrew.

Catherine Parent, Harold Potts, Karen Rawson, Jean Raymond, Jan Renolds, Wendy Richard, An-drew Robbins, Ann Sapelli, Mark Scales, Donald Schebel, David Simmons, Richard Snow, Elizabeth Spear, Frank Talbot, Carol Walker, Larry Whittle, Ted Wislocki, Gary Woods.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Ap-peals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1998 at 6:30 P.M., for all parties interested in the appeal of the GETTY REALTY CORP., which is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Sec-

TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

tion 180-7, Paragraph B of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the alteration of the ex-isting facility at the premises identified as: 1154 SPRINGFIELD STREET.

Larry Hoague
Acting Chairman

Published: September 10, 1998

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, September 14th: Tomato & zucchini soup, stuffed cabbage, mashed potatoates, rye bread, fresh fruit.

Tuesday, September 15th: Roast tur-key & stuffing with gravy, summer squash, whole wheat bread, prunes.

Wednesday, September 16th: Baked chicken leg, oven-browned potatoes, tossed salad, pumpernickel bread, ice cream.

Thursday, September 17th: Salisbury steak, parsleyed noodles, carrot coins, Canadian bread, cupcake.

Friday, September 18th: Cham chow-der, tunafish on a roll, corn on the cob, apricots.

(Menu subject to change without notice.)

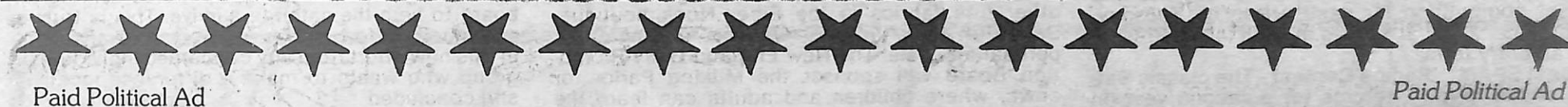
Commerce High's Class Of 1958 To Hold 40th Reunion

The High School of Commerce Class of 1958 will hold its 40th reunion on October 3, 1998.

If you have not been contacted, please call Sheila at 782-2747, Rosie at 737-1637, Sue at 525-6383, or Joyce at 786-0485 for details.

LEGAL NOTICE

ADVERTISER NEWS



Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

Vote In The Democratic Primary
September 15th!

Pull Lever 13 A

For Your

**State Senator
Linda J. Melconian**

Paid For By The Committee To Elect Linda J. Melconian



The 1998 Edition Of "The Big E" Has A Wide Variety Of Entertaining Activities To Enjoy

Magic Lantern Theatre - Taking place daily at 10:30 a.m., 12:30, 2:00, 4:30, and 6:30 p.m. in Storowton's Meeting House, hand-painted glass slides will be projected on a large screen accompanied by music. This historically accurate version of Victorian cinema will delight both movie lovers and history scholars of all ages.

Pepcid AC "Spice Up Your Life" Cooking Contest - On Friday, September 25th, at 11:00 a.m. Compete for cash prizes by preparing your hot-test, tastiest dish! Call (413) 787-0110 for an entry form.

Land O' Lakes® Margarine "Sweet Treat Team" Championship - Two generations unite to recreate their best recipes using Land O' Lakes® Margarine on September 24th at 4:00 p.m. in the New England Center. Call (413) 787-0110 for an entry form.

Harvest New England Demonstration Kitchen, sponsored in part by A. Boillard and Sons, Inc. and Salemi Appliance Service - The New England Center will display an astounding array of chefs, both professional and local, on a beautiful, newly-constructed 20-foot stage. Upon this fully equipped, full functional stage will tread Mary Ann Esposito, star of "Ciao Italia" and author of *What You Knead* on September 18th. Mario Batali, co-owner and chef of the mega-popular Manhattan restaurant Po, and star of the TV Food Network programs "Molto Mario" and "Mediterranean Mario," will appear on October 3rd. Samples, recipes, and book-signings all will be available.

Music of the Circus - Rare musical instruments of the past will be revealed at the Avenue Show-Place throughout the duration of The Big E. From Circus World Museum in Baraboo, Wisconsin, a colorful concert of calliopes, band organs, and gorgeous hand-carved circus wagons will set the tone in a delightful key for a visit to The Big E.

The Big E Circus, under the Big Top, sponsored by Coca-Cola - Barrels of fun and mountains of laughs under the Big Top! See a myriad of acts in an intimate, European-style tent. The hilarious Mark Karoly and his comedic Karoly riders, the Royal Hanneford Elephants, the superhuman aerial feats of the Marinoffs, Miss Sylvia Zerbini and her Horses at Liberty, and a dizzying array of entertainment. Shows are daily during the fair at 1:00, 4:00, and 7:00 p.m.

Land O' Lakes® Butter Best Cookie Contest - Area cooks will prepare their finest cookies in a sweet competition for cash prizes on Tuesday, September 22nd, at 11:00 a.m. Call (413) 787-0110 for an entry form.

Best SPAM® Recipe Contest - The classic Battle of the SPAM® returns for a second year on Monday, September 28th, at 11:00 a.m. Participants display their crowd-pleasing SPAM® recipes for prizes. Call (413) 787-0110 for an entry form.

Fleischmann's Yeast Best-Ever Holiday Bread Contest - The heat will rise faster than the dough as bakers from around New England compete for cash prizes using their best recipes involving Fleischmann's yeast on Tuesday, September 29th, at 11:00 a.m. Call (413) 787-0110 for an entry form.

Joie Chitwood's Thrill Show, sponsored by Town Fair Tire Centers - The daring and creativity of Hollywood's greatest stunt driver roars into the Outdoor Arena for two shows a day at 3:30 and 8:00 p.m., with an additional 1:00 p.m. show on Saturdays and Sundays. Sponsored by Town Fair Tire Centers, the nail-biting stunts of the Chitwood team will amaze and astonish all! Featuring high-speed precision motorcycle and automobile driving, death-defying crashes, and a 6,000 horsepower pickup, the exploits of Tim Chitwood and crew will bring scenes from action-packed movies to life!

Commerford's Petting Zoo, sponsored by Freihofer's and Rondeau Ice and Dairy Bar, the zoo allows everyone to feed and pet both exotic and farmyard animal favorites at two Commerford menageries, at Gates 4 & 7. Elephant and camel

rides are available at both locations.

Farm-A-Rama - Hatching chicks, domesticated llamas, and huge Hallamore Clydesdales may be viewed all day, everyday, during The Big E. On the Farm-A-Rama Stage, sponsored by United Waste, a fun and educational "On The Farm" quiz show will be presented, as well as the popular shows "Garbage Is My Bag" and "Farmin' Fever." Pick up information on vocational agriculture, then get some facts "straight from the horse's mouth" all in the popular family attraction, Farm-A-Rama.

The Avenue of States - Open at 10:00 a.m. every morning, these six beautiful and majestic buildings house a great deal of information on Massachusetts, Vermont, Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. They are also full of regional foods, products, and crafts from throughout New England.

International Plaza - A walk through International Plaza in the Young Building is like a stroll around the world! Enjoy exhibits, food, and fine products from Ireland, Africa, Thailand, Poland, and Italy as well as ethnic performances on The Young Building Stage showcasing local talent.

Antique Motor Vehicles - Ride through the past on the Avenue of States as an Antique Car Display on September 20th and October 3rd brings back fond memories of yesteryear. On September 26th and 27th, an Antique Steam Engine Fire Truck Display will leap from the history books as a Street Hot Rod Display on October 4th roars onto the Avenue. All hours are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. These wonderful vehicles will also appear in **The Big E Grande Parade**, sponsored by Stop & Shop.

Agricultural Competitions and Events - As an annual celebration of agriculture in New England, The Big E strives to present the greatest livestock shows and competitions as well as the finest agricultural demonstrations in the Northeast. The excitement of our 1998 events fulfills all expectations. In the Mallory Complex, continuous 4-H and open livestock shows for beef and dairy cattle, sheep, llamas, goats, and swine provide entertainment and education for animal lovers and farmers. Children and adults can get up close to herds of farm animals on the Avenue of Agriculture. The Butter Barn, temporary home of world-famous sculptor Jim Victor, will display farm animals of a different sort - animals made entirely of butter! In addition to watching the artist at work, fairgoers can see the making of wool and other fine fabrics in the Fiber Nook boutique. Beautiful fiber articles will be available for perusal and sale. The New England Dairy Promotion Board will sponsor the Milking Parlor for cows, where children and adults can learn the origin of the world's most naturally nutritious drink, milk! The 4-H Horse Show trots into the Coliseum on September 25th-27th. Ox pulling competitions take place Monday, September 28th, and Horse Pulling Competitions take place on Tuesday, September 29th.

Italian Pavilion - The Big E captures the spirit of Italy in sumptuous Italian dinners and salads, brick-oven pizzas, grinders, tempting Italian pastries, desserts, gourmet coffees, and so much more! Live musical entertainment will accompany your feast.

Magic Midway - Rides and games in endless supply all day long make the Magic Midway a marvelous place to be. Rides for children, virtual reality opportunities, and big-league rides like the Crazy Flip and G-Force entertain the whole family. The beautiful lights of the Midway are a cornerstone of nightlife at The Big E. For only \$12, ride all the rides any one day, Monday through Thursday.

Celebrate "The Great New England Fall Festival" with an abundance of delicious food, amazing attractions, and unbelievable entertainment, September 18-October 4, 1998. For more information, call our 24-hour information line at (413) 787-0271, or visit us on the web at www.thebigE.com.

Open Pantry To Open Satellite Program At F.H. Congregational

The West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry is pleased to announce that a satellite of its grocery distribution and advocacy programs will be opening in the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, 21 N. Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, on Tuesday, September 15th, at 10:00 a.m.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held outside the church at that time to usher in the new pantry. Mayor Christopher Johnson will be present to cut the ribbon and welcome the new site into the community. Everyone is welcome to attend.

ALL RESIDENTS OF AGAWAM, FEEDING HILLS, AND SOUTHWICK WILL BE REQUIRED TO USE THIS NEW SITE AFTER SEPTEMBER 15TH TO CONTINUE RECEIVING GROCERIES.

All other services will still be available at the West Springfield site at 1023 Main Street. The hours for groceries at the Feeding Hills site will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Patrick Kearney, Ed.D., will be available on Thursday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon to assist residents in securing housing and employment, obtaining benefits, and in seeking rehabilitative services for substance abuse. His regular office hours at the West Springfield site on Tuesdays and Wednesdays will be maintained from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Open Pantry Director Jennifer Cummings stated, "The Feeding Hills Congregational Church has been wonderful to us from day one in the planning process of this satellite. Many hungry families from the Agawam and Southwick areas have trouble getting to the West Springfield site for their food because of transportation problems."

She continued, "The church has been gracious enough to offer space to us to allow us to better reach those families in need in their part of town. The fact that they responded to this need shows their commitment to our shared mission of alleviating the effects of hunger in our community."

"We are very grateful to them for their support, and look forward to other churches, businesses, and civic groups in the Agawam area coming on board to help the satellite survive. This is truly a community effort, and we welcome involvement in this new effort from any concerned individual or group who wants to make a difference locally," she concluded.

Please contact Jennifer at the Open Pantry if you would like to become involved, (413) 734-7969.

Agawam Police Explorers Searching For New Recruits

Are you interested in law enforcement? The Agawam Police Explorers Post No. 713 (affiliated with the Agawam Police Association and the Boy Scouts of America) are looking for new male and female recruits ages 14 to 21 who are interested in exploring the field of law enforcement.

The Police Explorers also take part in many activities like camping, security for Boy Scout events, traffic parking for The Big E, fingerprinting children (Ident-a-kid), and the Adopt-a-Highway program.

If interested, please contact James Antico at 789-0108 or attend the Police Explorer meetings every first and third Sunday of every month in the Faolin Peirce Community Room (located in the Agawam Police Station) at 7:00 p.m.

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Church News

One Week This Summer...

F.H. Congregational Parishioners Help To Rebuild Churches

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Measuring sheetrock, pounding nails, and cleaning up the remaining vestiges of a major reconstruction project may not be most folks' idea of the ideal summer vacation. But, six members of the Feeding Hills Congregational Church agree the week they spent helping rebuild two burnt out black churches in the Deep South was about as good as it gets.

Not only did most members of the crew learn new carpentry skills, they felt a sense of satisfaction in helping people; they experienced a spiritual growth akin to going on a retreat; and they had fun doing it.

Teaming up with ministers from Westfield and Hampden, Feeding Hills Congregational Pastor Rob Donaldson put together a crew of volunteers, including his wife, Debbie, an Agawam Junior High English teacher; his son, Doug, an Agawam High School junior and part-time cashier at Stop & Shop; church members Susan Strycharz, a Department of Mental Retardation licensed practical nurse, and Rick Kretschmar, a flight safety program manager at Hamilton Standard; and former church member Karl Moore, an electrical engineer.

At their own expense, the group flew to Atlanta, piled into a rented van, and drove first to Birmingham, Alabama and later on to Marietta, Georgia, to join the dozens of volunteers from near and far who have been helping to rebuild the nearly 400 black churches destroyed by fire, mainly in a rash of racially-motivated arsons across the South four years ago.

Second Volunteer Trip For Some

It was the second time Rev. Donaldson and Karl Moore spent a week as volunteer construction workers in the rebuilding effort. Last summer,



AT THE AVENUE M CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST in Birmingham, Alabama: Karl Moore, Rev. Robert Donaldson, Debbie Donaldson, Susan Strycharz, Ruth Brandon (Pastor/Minister of Second Congregational United Church of Christ, Westfield), Doug Donaldson, Tom Howells (Pastor of Hampden Federated Church), and Rick Kretschmar.

both men traveled to Barnwell, South Carolina to help construct a new home for the Rosemary Baptist Church. This year, Rev. Donaldson had little trouble enlisting church members to put aside the tools of the trade of their "day jobs" and pick up the tools of the construction trade, especially since regular letters from Chandra Brooker of Barnwell kept the congregation informed and in-

terested in the growth of Rosemary's membership and ministries after the opening of their new church last fall.

"I looked on it as an opportunity to do something to help other people who were in need and, at the same time, give something of myself."

SEE REBUILDING - Page 14...

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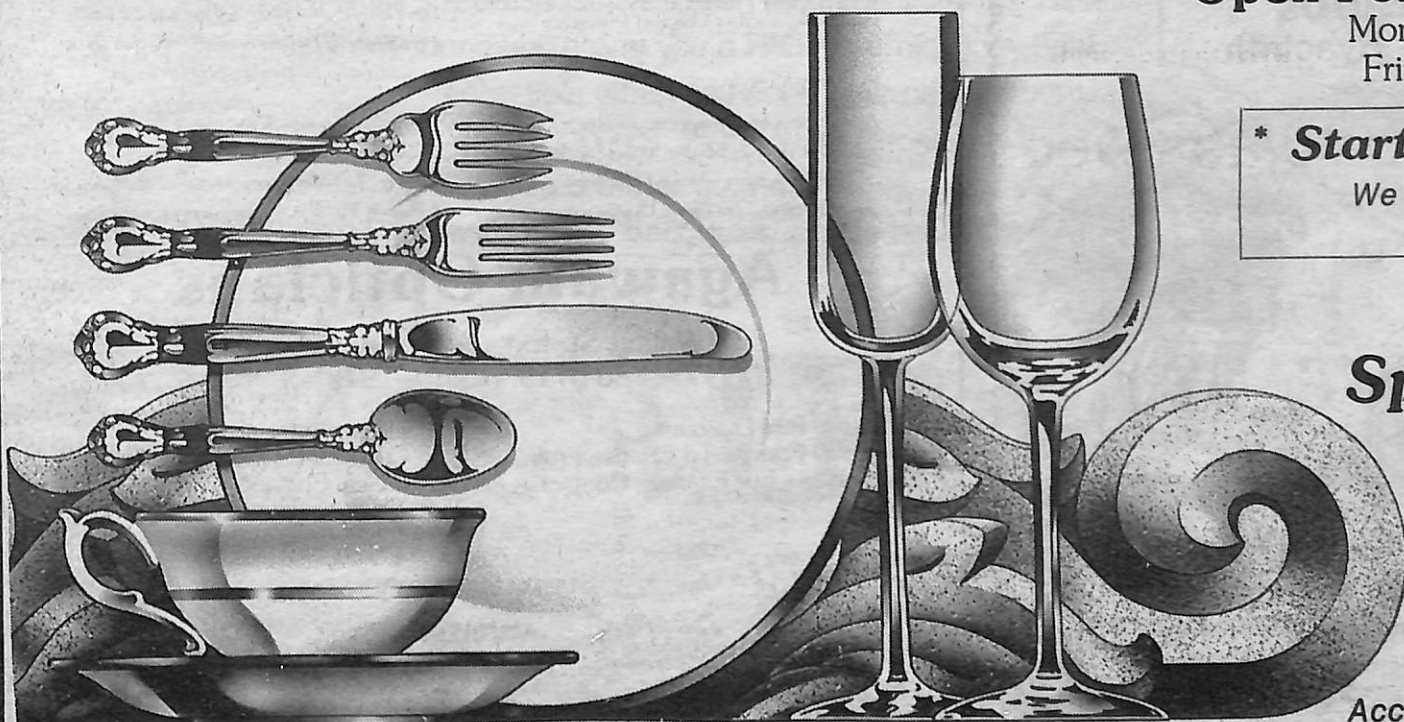
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Church News - continued...

REBUILDING - from Page 13...

Kretschmar said. "It was an opportunity to do things for people who have a totally different cultural experience and a totally different way of worshipping than we do. It was a growth experience for me."

For Mrs. Donaldson, it was simply the right thing to do.

"There is something very special when the opportunity arises and you just know it's the right thing to do. We just knew it was what we're supposed to do. It was a very spiritual experience. I was very concerned about the burning of black churches and the racial aspects of some issues that have come up in the Springfield area. This gave me an opportunity to act in a positive way for racial justice. It was a joy to live in the black community. It was a wonderful experience," Mrs. Donaldson said.

At the Avenue M Church of God in Christ in Birmingham, the group relied on Moore and Kretschmar for technical advice on construction basics, including the best technique for pounding nails and the proper way to measure, cut, and install sheetrock.

According to Reverend Donaldson, the job of cutting sheetrock became easier when his wife and Susan Strycharz discovered the task merely required the same basic geometry they use as quiltmakers.

Before going on the southern trip, Ms. Strycharz describes herself as the kind of person whose grown children know that an invitation to a barbecue usually involves a household repair job as well as a meal. Now that she's mastered the sheetrocking technique, she's ready to help friends with their home repairs and she's looking into spending time next summer joining Habitat for Humanity in building homes for the needy.

"I'm very interested in helping people with whatever skills I have outside of my skills as a nurse—that's my job, but this was fun," Ms. Strycharz said.

Echoing each other, the group members all spoke of the desire to help others, the personal growth they experienced on the trip, and the sheer fun of working hard all day and goofing off at night.

Like the night the Feeding Hills crew invited

another group of volunteers to join them at the suburban church gymnasium they called home for three days for a spaghetti dinner. It was then that they discovered only one member of the group was unable to give the Vulcan hand salute made famous by the Star Trek series.

"There's a lot of hard work, but there's a lot of silliness that goes on to bring the group together," explained Rev. Donaldson. "The Vulcan salute came up because there's a statue of Vulcan in the city."

Underlying the fun and camaraderie of working with friends from home and developing new relationships within the black community, a sense of spiritual growth remains a dominant aspect of the trip for the volunteers. One of the most memorable moments of the week for Avenue M Pastor Loyal Bryant and for the volunteers was the day work was completed on the baptistery.

"It was such a special moment when we got the baptistery installed," Mrs. Donaldson said. "There were tears in Pastor Bryant's eyes as he finally realized his church was coming together."

Avenue M Fire Has Never Been Solved

Although not the victim of a hate crime, the Avenue M church was destroyed by an arson-related fire when the house next door was apparently doused with gasoline and set ablaze. Like the arson that destroyed the Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in Marietta, Georgia (where the Donaldson group spent the final three days of their trip), the Avenue M fire has never been solved.

As the Donaldsons reminisced about their July vacation, there were several recurring themes to their conversation, including their gratitude for the financial support of the congregation in helping ease the financial burden of the trip and their pride in the youngest member of the group, their son, Doug.

"We're very proud of Doug," Mrs. Donaldson said. "Not only did he fit right in with the group of adults, he really pulled his weight with the work."

Although it's a little early for the group to make definite plans for next summer's vacation, most agreed that a hammer, nails, and sheetrock could be a part of their future plans.

"With 400 churches burnt out and now at various stages of rebuilding, there is still a long road ahead," Rev. Donaldson said. "It would be nice to see things coming to an end."



IN PHOTO ABOVE: Pastor Loyal Bryant of the Avenue M Church of God in Christ. IN PHOTO BELOW: Debbie Donaldson and Susan Strycharz installing sheetrock at the Avenue M Church.



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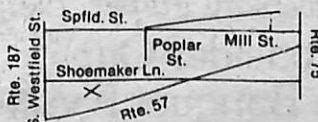
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Church News - continued...

Reflections...

submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the New Life
Christian Church,
Suffield, CT
(860) 668-4444 or
(413) 786-8735



Give Joy To An Angel...

Have you ever done anything you're ashamed of? Is there any incident in your life, something you've done, that would cause you to be mortified if others found about it? The answer, if you're like most people, is most likely yes. Virtually all of us harbor a skeleton or two, or more, in our proverbial closets.

It might be surprising to find out that King David, a man whom God Himself once described as "a man after My own heart," bore the same kind of shame as the rest of us. In fact, if King David possessed just average morality, his shame was far worse than the rest of us.

King David was the author of Psalm 51. In part, he wrote, "Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me of my sin." "Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean." "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me."

The event in King David's life which prompted him to write Psalm 51 makes President Clinton's alleged indiscretions look like child's play in comparison. King David ignored his royal duties, seduced the wife of one of his best friends, got pregnant, tried to cover up his actions by trying to make it look like the best friend was the father of the illegitimate child, and then arranged the death of his friend when his wicked schemes

"Reflections" is a regular feature of The AAN...

wouldn't work. It is little wonder that King David felt ashamed of himself.

Perhaps the only thing more shocking than the tale of royal intrigue in this story is the fact that God actually forgave King David! To be sure, David had to suffer the consequences of his awful behavior. The Bible warns us, **Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit.**

While King David did not escape the consequences of his behavior, neither did he have to suffer them alone. The illegitimate child died shortly after he was born. David's reign was marred by rebellion and other intrigues. However, in each and every one of his troubles, King David knew the grace and presence of God, and grew in God's grace and favor throughout his life. Because King David confessed his sins, and because God forgave King David for those awful sins, the events of David's life made him better, rather than bitter.

Chances are, none of us has been nearly as wicked as King David, if for no other reason than we lacked the opportunity. Nonetheless, each of us must admit, if we are to be honest, that there are some things we've done for which we are legitimately ashamed. Is there any hope for us? Can God show to us the same kind of grace He showed to King David when he forgave him? Absolutely!

Jesus said, "Which of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." Get rid of your shame, and give joy to an angel, today! God wants to forgive us all our sins, even those we are ashamed of; more than we realize.

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Weekly Calendar From Ag. Congregational

This Sunday, September 13th, is the 15th Sunday after Pentecost. It is also Communion Sunday.

The fall schedule begins, and the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service returns at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

Rev. Fuller's Sermon will be: "Under Construction," taken from Text: Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28. His Children's Message will be: "Building Bridges."

Church School begins with the seventh through 12th grade students meeting at 9:00 a.m., and the Rev. Fuller and Cindy Arnold will be the co-chairs. The class is open to all ninth graders and those older who may not have been confirmed.

Please call Rev. Fuller at 786-7111 if you have any questions or for more information.

The Open Pantry item for this Sunday is jello. Items collected will be donated to the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry.

The Playgroup begins on Thursday, September 17th, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Playgroup is open to infants through pre-school age children.

The Spring Bulb Fundraiser, sponsored by Family Outreach for the General Budget, will end this Sunday.

Orders may be taken at the Coffee Hour following the Sunday Worship Service, or call the Church Office, 786-7111.

Church News - continued...**First Baptist To Celebrate "Rally Day"**

Stephen Bailey, Youth Director, recently announced plans for the upcoming "Rally Day" celebration at First Baptist Church. Worship will begin at 9:30 a.m., and the theme for the day is "Head 'em Out!"

There will be special musical presentations, skits performed by church school members, and other surprises.

Following worship, representatives from the Cornerstone Christian Bookstore will be on hand in Davis Hall with music, books, posters, jewelry, and more for sale. If you buy, a portion of the proceeds will go to the Youth Ministry of the church.

A family picnic will follow at the home of John & Nancy Barber. In case of rain, festivities will be moved to Bodurtha Hall.

On our calendar this week:

Tuesday, September 15th: 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:00 p.m., Junior Youth Group; 7:00 p.m., Divorce Recovery Group.

Wednesday, September 16th: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open; Youth Leaders Activity.

Thursday, September 17th: 10:00 a.m., Bell Ringers Rehearsal; 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

Friday, September 18th to Sunday, September 20th: Senior Youth Blast at Camp Ashmere.

Saturday, September 19th: 7:00 p.m., Single Parent Support Group.

Caring Connection contacts for the month of September are Gwen & Jack Magovern (786-3542).

Sharon Grabowski, Program Coordinator, has announced that she will be in the church office on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, beginning September 9th.

Stop by if she can help you with your board, committee, or group.

Cub Scout Pack 77 Schedules Open House For September 15th

On Tuesday, September 15th from 6:30-8:00 p.m., St. John's Cub Scout Pack 77 will be holding an open house at the church hall.

All boys in grade one (Tigers) through grade five (Webelos) and their parents are invited to stop by to find out more about Scouting.

Leaders, parents, and Cub Scouts will be available to talk with and answer questions. New adult leaders are always welcome. Pack 77 has monthly meetings at the church hall with the individual dens having weekly or biweekly meetings.

We are involved in Tiger, Quest, Yokon Derby, family camping, Webelo Camping, Scout Night at the Falcons, Pinewood Derby, Pack hikes, bottle drives, Pittsfield Mets home game, Scout advancement, etc.

Please stop by the church hall on September 15th or call Ed (789-3587), Jay/Cathy (786-5103), or Marcia (786-3666) for more information.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12 noon.

* * *

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**Parish News And Events From St. John's Church****YOUTH COMMITTEE**

The Committee meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Call Judy Cross at 786-7664 or the Parish Office at 786-8105. Next meeting will be on October 1st.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Classes start September 19th, 21st, and 22nd (Grades 1-10).

There will be a meeting of all Rel. Ed. volunteers (that is, teachers, aides, etc.) on Monday, September 14th, at 7:00 p.m. in the lower Church.

Teachers are still needed in several grades, especially Grades 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 10. Training will be provided.

Call Sr. Fran Gloster, 786-8105.

CONFIRMATION STUDENTS FOR 1998

The Candidates for Confirmation next month are asked to attend the 9:30 Mass on Sunday, September 13th. They are asked to bring their Baptismal Candle with them for a "Transfer Service."

On the day of their Baptism, their parents received a lighted candle and were challenged to keep the flame of faith alive until such time as the youngster (grown up) will assume that responsibility for themselves — that will be Confirmation.

This ceremony will focus on this action.

OVER 60 CLUB

A Trip to Lancaster, PA (with the show "NOAH" and a visit to Gettysburg), has been planned for November 3rd-6th. This trip is open to members and non-members, and the cost is \$370 (dbl. occ.). Call Barbara, 786-7037, or Lil, 786-9586.

MOTHERS' PLAYGROUP

Our Mothers' Playgroup for little people will start on Tuesday, September 22nd. The group will meet each week thereafter from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. If interested in joining, please call Amy, 789-4264.

CUB SCOUT PACK 77

Our Cub Scout Pack is looking for new members. All boys in grades 1 thru 5 are invited to stop by the Parish Center on Tuesday, September 15th, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Interested boys and their parents (adult involvement is encouraged) can talk with current leaders, parents, and Cub Scouts. The pack meets monthly at the Center.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Plans are well underway for the Bazaar, and we look forward to another huge success.

We need chairpersons for the Attic Treasures and Jewelry booths.

"Church News" is another reason why you turn our pages every week...

News And Notes From F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. Worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m.

This Sunday is Rally Day for our Sunday School, as well as ReCovenanting Sunday for our entire congregation.

The lectionary readings for this Sunday, the 15th Sunday after Pentecost, are Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28, Psalm 14, 1 Timothy 1:12-17, and Luke 15:1-10.

Children are welcome to attend worship with their parents; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

* * *

We are a busy place! Please be sure to use the calendar in Griswold Hall to schedule meetings and events.

If your committee will change the date of a regularly scheduled meeting, please indicate this on the calendar.

* * *

The Open Pantry will be opening a satellite site at this church on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

Food and counseling will be available. Entry to the Pantry may be gained from the back parking lot through the door with the handicap accessible ramp.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place here on Tuesday, September 15th, at 10:00 a.m.

* * *

There will be a quilting social held here on Saturday, September 12th, beginning at 1:00 p.m. New quilters are always welcome to join with us.

* * *

On the calendar:

Thursday, September 10th: 6:30 p.m., Finance; 7:00 p.m., Deacons; 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Friday, September 11th: 7:00 p.m., Radio Club.

Saturday, September 12th: 1:00 p.m., Quilting Social.

Sunday, September 13th: 10:00 a.m., Rally/ReCovenanting Sunday.

Monday, September 14th: Rev. Rob on retreat.

Tuesday, September 15th: 10:10 a.m., Open Pantry Satellite site ribbon-cutting; 7:00 p.m., A.A.; 7:30 p.m., Stewardship/Missions.

Wednesday, September 16th: 5:00 p.m., Rev. Rob serving dinner at Open Pantry (helpers needed); 6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts Family Meeting; 6:30 p.m., Music Committee; 7:00 p.m., Choir.

Thursday, September 17th: 8:15 a.m., Blue Seal breakfast at Big E; Newsletter deadline; 7:00 p.m., A.A.

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Spotlight On Business



THE STAFF AND MANAGEMENT OF EBTEC CORPORATION, located at 120 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam, recently celebrated the honor of being assessed and certified by the National Quality Assurance to be in compliance with the Quality Assurance Management System Standard ISO 9002-1994. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUBSCRIPTION OFFER for new subscribers only: buy one at full price for \$20 (good from September 1998 to June 30, 1999), send a second subscription to a friend or neighbor for FREE. Offer ends September 23rd; see our full-page ad in this issue for an order form ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

EBTEC Corp. Receives ISO Certification

EBTEC Corporation of 120 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam is pleased to announce that it has been assessed and certified by the National Quality Assurance to be in compliance with the Quality Assurance Management System Standard ISO 9002-1994.

It also has been assessed and registered by the National Quality Assurance Limited against the provision of BS EN ISO 9002-1994.

EBTEC is empowered by the Federal Aviation Agency to operate an approved repair station and holds the following certifications and/or registrations: FAA - JAA - CASE - NADCAP, and other military standards.

The certifications and/or registrations are applicable to electron beam welding, industrial laser technologies, plasma welding, heat treating, and processing miscellaneous metal products.

* * *

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* * *

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Spotlight On Business - continued...

Congratulations To EBTEC Corporation



IN LEFT PHOTO: EBTEC President John Leveille (far left) discusses the company's ISO certification with Town Council President Donald Rheault, Mayor Christopher Johnson, and EBTEC Registered Professional Engineer Pat Rondinelli (Manager - Quality Assurance). IN RIGHT PHOTO: Johnson and Rheault congratulate Leveille and Rondinelli on EBTEC's prestigious certification. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

subject #s 66 & 67

Look at the alert ears, the wide grin, the bulging eyes.

Subject is clearly enthralled, in this case as he watches on the Internet a graphically rich video about space travel with MediaOne® Express™ and the Interactive Broadband Network.

But that's not all. Subject then went on to discover that for a limited time this service can be installed for a shocking **\$50 off.**

Realizing that, if positioned correctly, no parent could refuse such an affordable educational tool, subject 67 became excited. Very, very excited.

Now, for your children to experience this excitement firsthand, and for you to take advantage of a great deal with a 30-day money-back guarantee, call 1-888-339-3156. Or visit online at www.mediaone.com/express/northeast to sign up today for the fastest home Internet service. Hurry! Offer ends soon.

See File #11: **This is Broadband. This is the way.**

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Spotlight On Business - continued...*At Allen St., Spfld. location...***Hampden Savings
Holds A "Block
Party To Remember"**

What does a new two-lane drive-thru, 300 free piggy banks, over 400 hot dogs, 500 sodas, 125 donuts, 100 cups of coffee, 450 cups of Italian ice, and countless cups of popcorn add up to? Well, if you are Hampden Savings Bank, it adds up to a Grand Reopening Block Party to remember with lots of happy customers and scores of new friends.

Close to 1,000 visitors dropped by to help Hampden Savings Bank reopen its Full Service Office on Allen Street in Springfield. Carolyn Hodge, manager of the Allen Street Bank, noted how impressed she was with the turnout.

"Hundreds of people hoofed it by all day and went hog-wild over the free piggy banks. We ran out of the small savings sows by mid-morning and had to bounce over to beach balls as a back-up," she noted.

Hampden Savings Bank, the only area bank to be headquartered in the City of Springfield, has invested several million dollars in the expansion and renovation of its offices throughout the Springfield area.

With the completion of the Allen Street project, which includes a two-lane drive-thru with a 24-hour ATM, 300 safe deposit boxes, a night drop box, an enhanced customer service area, and more, the Bank was in a mood to celebrate. And, on the last Thursday of the summer vacation season, hundreds of customers and their friends helped them do just that.

On Thursday, August 27th, the Bank provided visitors with a Good Morning Drive-Thru featuring free coffee, donuts, juice, and paper; Lunch on the Corner including free hot dogs, sodas, and chips, as well as popcorn and Italian ice throughout the day.

While children around the rest of Springfield watched their summer slip away with trepidation, kids at the Block Party tried on tattoos, laughed with Funny Face the Clown, and anxiously awaited the free drawing for a Power Wheels, a mountain bike, and a portable CD stereo.

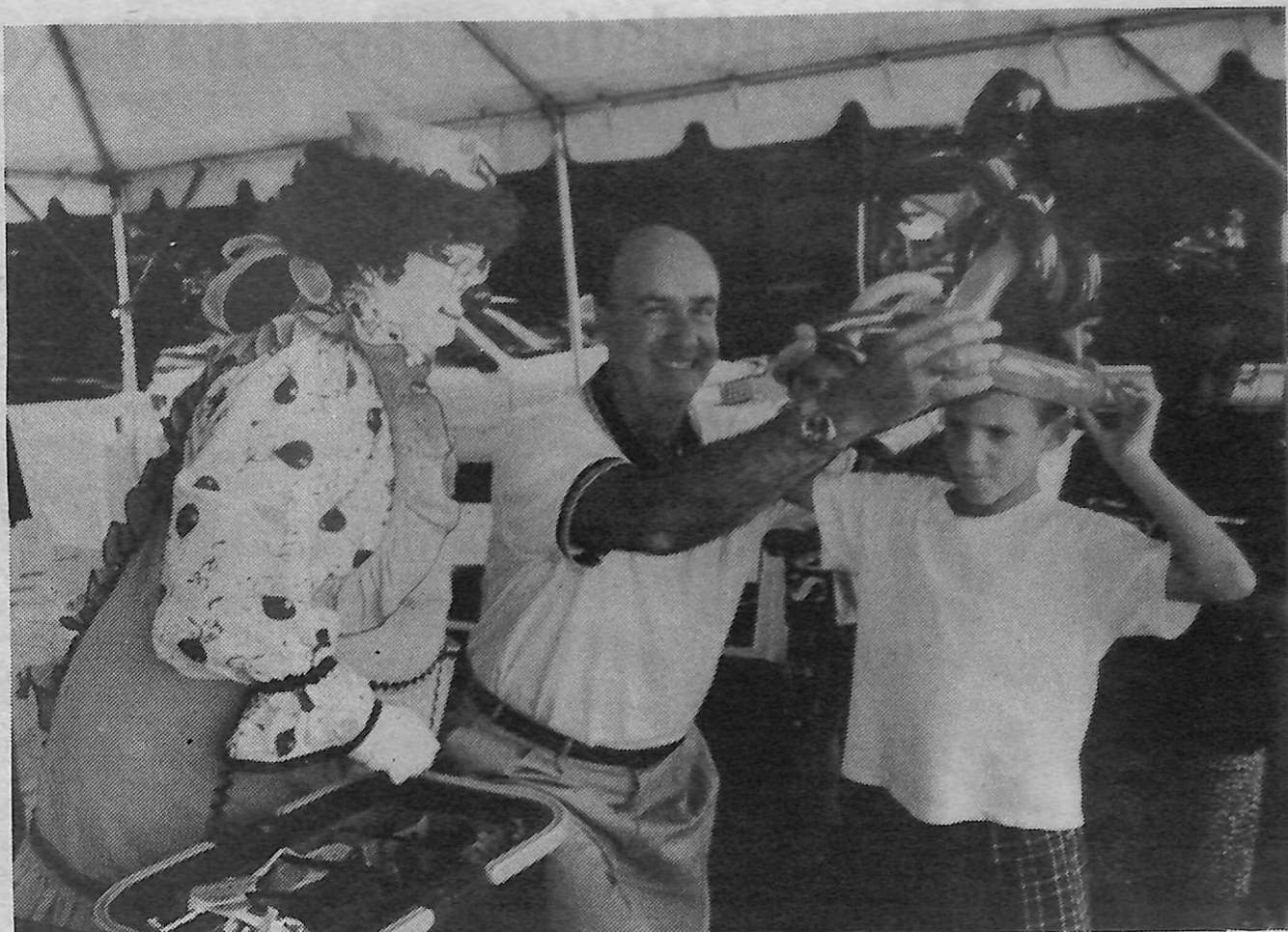
The lucky winners included Sarah Rys (Power Wheels), Lori-Ann Avery (mountain bike), and Marilyn Kadzik (CD stereo).

**Please remember -
our deadline is each
Tuesday at 12:00
noon ... AAN!!!**

**Happy
"Sweet 16,"
Sarah**



Love,
Dad, Mom & Ryan



"FUNNY FACE" THE CLOWN (far left) and Hampden Savings Bank president Tom Burton (center) created the "right look" for a young visitor at the bank's Grand Reopening Block Party on Thursday, August 27th. The party was held at Hampden Savings Bank's Full Service Office on Allen Street in Springfield, where close to 1,000 visitors were on hand for its reopening.

Pam Savioli

**Landry, Lyons &
Whyte Co./Better
Homes & Gardens**

**Choosing A Pro...**

If you're thinking about buying or selling a home soon, you'll want to carefully choose the real estate professional you work with during the

process.

You should commit yourself to working with one sales associate who can learn your likes and dislikes in homes to make your home-buying process easier.

Choose a professional who specializes in residential real estate and who has specific knowledge of the local real estate and mortgage markets. The person you choose should listen to you and be interested enough in you to find out about your housing needs and preferences.

"Service first" should be the motto of the professional you choose — with services going above and beyond what you expect and need.

For more information about the services a Better Homes and Gardens sales professional can provide, call Pam Savioli at (413) 748-7565.

**Pam Savioli's column is another reason
why you turn our pages every week...**

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Thurs. - Fri. 9-5

4 Washington Avenue Extension, Agawam

Spotlight On Business - continued...

Postal "Giveaway"...



POSTMASTER MAUREEN PRICE (left) and Clerk Francine B. Lopes pose in front of a professionally matted, framed enlargement of a stamp depicting the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair (one of the stamps in the 1910 series) which is now on display at the Feeding Hills Post Office. Stop in at the Feeding Hills Post Office, fill out a 1970 voting ballot for "Celebrate the Century," and your name will be entered into a drawing to win the framed enlargement. The drawing will be held on October 1st, and you can enter as many times as you'd like. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



COMMON SENSE
with
Raymond Rose
THE PIONEER GROUP

Home Improvements That Help Your Bottom Line...

When planning a home improvement project, one important factor to consider is what an appraiser will think of your improvements when you're ready to sell your home. Before a bank will finance a buyer's bid when selling your home, an appraiser must examine the house to give an estimate of its value.

An updated house that is well-maintained stands a better chance of getting a higher appraisal, which helps you sell your home for more money. In most cases, you should not expect a dollar-for-dollar return of your investment, but many improvements come close to it.

Adding an extra bath or upgrading your kitchen usually provides the best return. How much will largely depend on where you live, so check with your local real estate buyer's agent to see which improvements typically add the most value in your area.

To get the most out of your home improvement dollars, keep the following guidelines in mind...

- Don't over-improve! If you already have the most expensive house on the block, you can expect to recover a smaller percentage of your home improvement expenses when you sell your home. That is because an appraiser determines the value of your home partially by comparing it to the value of other homes in your neighborhood. So, if you over-improve, it is likely that an appraisal will be far less than what you invested.

- Quality counts! Craftsmanship and style play a part in your home's appraisal. An addition that looks tacked-on or suffers from poor workmanship may get a lower appraised value.

- Modern conveniences and upgrades are the key! Homebuyers tend to shy away from fixer-uppers. For this reason, improvements can help you sell your home faster and buyers may be more willing to meet your asking price. Improvements such as these also tend to help you get a better appraisal, which is important because lenders base their decisions partly on the house's appraised value.

- Keep good records! Provide records of the improvements to the appraiser, along with a list of the square footage of your home, its age, lot size, and construction quality.

If you are planning a home improvement project, please feel comfortable to contact me personally at 731-6800 so that I can best advise you.



Travel Talk...

by Lori Keeley, CTC
Travel Connections, LTD
10 Chestnut Street
West Spfld., MA 01089

Winter Destinations - "St. John"

As I mentioned last week, now is the time to start thinking about a winter vacation. Each week for the next few weeks, I will pick a destination to discuss and give you a little background information.

Maybe this will help you in your search for the perfect getaway. Most of my information was provided to me by GWV, a tour operator that operates

weekly charters from Bradley Airport and Boston's Logan.

St. John is the smallest and most unspoiled of the three U.S. Virgin Islands. St. John is an island treasure. A short 20-minute boat ride from St. Thomas lies St. John, which is a beautiful, low-key treasure island. Stunning beaches surround the island, including the world-famous Trunk Bay with its underwater snorkeling.

More than half of St. John, 21 square miles, is protected by the U.S. National Parks Service. The pace is comfortable, the people friendly, and a "life is good" attitude prevails.

Quaint shops, local crafts, and restaurants are an easy walk from the ferry dock in the quiet little town of Cruz Bay. GWV will offer a seven-night package from Boston with hotel accommodations at the Westin Resort. You may want to put St. John on your list of places to visit this year.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding travel, you can write to Lori Keeley, Travel Connections, LTC, 10 Chestnut Street, West Springfield, MA 01089. Thanks for reading *The Agawam Advertiser News*.

And A ... 5, 6, 7, 8
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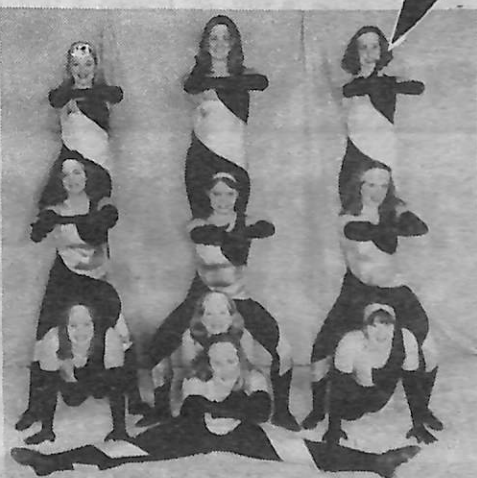
Come in and meet the teachers, see our facility, and have a free dance lesson on the house anytime during the month of September.

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Spotlight On Business - continued...**Legal Memo**

by
Alan L. Ferrigno, Esq.
 546 Springfield St., F.H.
 (413) 786-9454

**Wrongful Death:
Newspaper Delivery...**

In November of 1993, a 14 year-old boy was riding his bike to the newspaper drop-off point to begin his delivery. The drop-off point had recently been moved to a location on a busy street. The boy and his family had allegedly requested the drop-off point to be moved back to its original location, but the newspaper declined.

After turning onto the busy street, the boy was struck by a van and landed on the pavement, suffering serious head injuries. His twin sister, who delivered newspapers with him, witnessed the incident. Immediately after the accident, the boy's parents and other sisters arrived on the scene, and saw him laying on the ground, motionless. The boy had a pulse and was still breathing. He was transported by Medi-Flight to the hospital. He was initially breathing on his own and conscious. Two days later, he passed away as a result of the massive head injuries suffered in the accident.

The Plaintiffs contended that the newspaper, by selecting a dangerous drop-off point, proximately caused the accident and the boy's death. Further, the newspaper had allegedly failed to require helmets, and failed to provide any training or safety program. Moreover, the day after the accident, the drop-off point was moved back to a neighbor's driveway, and the newspaper also recommended that its newspaper carriers wear helmets.

The newspaper contended that it could not govern safety issues relating to the children

because it would compromise the independent contractor relationship. The newspaper's concern was that a safety program for the children would be a "point of control" that would intrude on the "little merchant system." The admitted purpose for the "little merchant system" is to allow the newspaper to avoid worker's compensation insurance costs for the children.

The Plaintiffs contended that pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 149, Section 69, the newspaper had a responsibility to provide an orientation and training program for each child delivering their newspapers. The statutory history regulating "street trades" for children underscored the exercise of the state's power to protect the safety, health, morals, and welfare of the people.

The Plaintiffs contended that the Legislature expressly placed the duty on the newspaper to provide an orientation and training program, which included safety practices such as helmets. While there was no clear statutory interpretation of Chapter 149, Section 69 regarding the safety responsibilities, the Plaintiffs contended that comparable law exists under Chapter 152, Section 28 wherein "the employment of any minor, in violation of any provision of (Chapter 149, Sections 60-74) shall constitute serious and willful misconduct."

As part of the damages claim, the Plaintiffs made particular note of the emotional distress claims of the decedent's twin sister and family members. At mediation, the van driver paid \$100,000.00 to the Plaintiffs and the newspaper paid \$600,000.00.

Attorney Alan L. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts.

Women Business Owners Plan Trade Show/Open House

The Women Business Owners Alliance (WBOA) will be holding a trade show/open house on Thursday, September 24th, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Best Western Inn (formerly the Ramada Inn), Riverdale Road, West Springfield.

Women expanding and promoting their own businesses should not miss this opportunity to meet the members of WBOA as they showcase their skills and services. This is an annual event for the community to learn how WBOA can increase their presence in today's business world. WBOA addresses the issues and supports the needs of women in or considering business in the Pioneer Valley.

Network with professionals (from accountants to designers) in a relaxed social setting with hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

Admission is \$10 in advance (call the WBOA voice mail at 827-4182 to make reservations) and \$12 at the door.

For further information, call 731-7031.

Check the classified ads in each edition of The AAN.

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Happy 35th Mom and Dad... You haven't changed a bit!



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“Dinosaur Daze” Coming To Spfld. Museums On Sept. 20th

The Springfield Museums will kick off the 1998/99 series of Sunday Family Programs with “Dinosaur Daze” on September 20th from 12:00 noon until 4:00 p.m. All activities are free with the price of museum admission.

- 1:00 & 3:00 p.m.: Having Fun with Fossils and Dinosaurs - Fossil hunter Paulette Morin introduces the world of dinosaurs through storytelling from a five-foot-tall storybook. Youngsters will also be able to examine 100 fossil specimens and learn how they can find fossils on their own.

- 12:00 noon-4:00 p.m.: Make a fossil rubbing from casts of bones from a Velociraptor, a Triceratops, and a Tyrannosaurus rex.

- 12:00 noon-4:00 p.m.: Make your own dinosaur sock puppet, party favor, and suncatcher.

- 12:00 noon-4:00 p.m.: Visit Dinosaur Hall to see the 20-foot-tall replica of Tyrannosaurus rex and learn more about these awesome creatures.

Sunday Family Programs are supported in part by a generous grant from Bell Atlantic.

The museums are located at the Quadrangle on the corner of State and Chestnut Streets in downtown Springfield. Hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 12:00 noon-4:00 p.m. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$1 for children six through 18, and free for children under six and members. (Group rates are available; call 413-263-6800, ext. 472.)

The single admission fee provides entry to all four museums at the Quadrangle. Springfield students and teachers are admitted free with a specially-validated Springfield Library card.

For more information, call 413-263-6800, ext. 488.

Check our
classified
ads...

Suffield Players Announce Schedule For 1998-1999 Season

Suffield: The Suffield Players invite everyone to join them for their 1998-99 season. The year will begin with the stylish 1941 classic of murder and humor, “ARSENIC AND OLD LACE” by Joseph Kesselring, which plays October 8th, 9th, 10th, 16th, 23rd, and 24th.

The season's second production will be the Players' 100th show in their 46 years; Shakespeare's powerful tale of betrayal, avarice, and passion, “MACBETH.” The dates for ‘the Scottish play’ will be February 25th, 26th, 27th, March 5th, 6th, 12th, 13th, 19th, and 20th. Auditions for “MACBETH” are scheduled for Monday, October 26th and Tuesday, October 27th, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Mapleton Hall.

Auditioners should prepare a monologue. “MACBETH” will be offered to area schools as part of their classics studies. Those interested in being included in this special offering should call either 413-567-8422 or 413-592-3755. The Players then move on to a night of musical favorites with “COLE,” the music of Cole Porter, scheduled for April 29th, 30th, May 1st, 7th, 8th, 14th, 15th, 21st, and 22nd.

The Players are seeking directors for both “ARSENIC AND OLD LACE” and “COLE.” Those interested in applying should call the Players at 413-567-8422 on or before July 14th. All shows will be held at Suffield's historic Mapleton Hall, 1305 Mapleton Avenue. Reservations for any or all of these productions can be made by calling the Players at 1-800-289-6148.

TYRANNOSAURUS REX will greet visitors to “Dinosaur Daze,” the Sunday Family Program at the Springfield Museums at the Quadrangle in downtown Springfield on September 20th from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. For more information, call 413-263-6800, ext. 488.

ASK and
it will
be given.



SEEK and
you
will find.



KNOCK and
the door will be
opened.



- Matthew 7:7

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Sunday School & Nursery Care: Sunday 10 am

The Reverend Len Cowan

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6:30 PM

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PICTURED ABOVE ARE three dolls that were made in Germany circa 1903-1908 and have bisque heads, hands, and feet. These dolls were loaned to the Hatheway House by Sally Thompson Bissell and belonged to her great-aunt, Fannie Ellworth Thompson.

“Parade Of Dolls” To Continue Through September 13th At Hatheway House In Suf.

Suffield: The Hatheway House located in Suffield, owned and operated by Antiquarian and Landmarks Society, is featuring “the parade of dolls” as a special exhibit in the historic museum.

The dolls displayed throughout the museum vary from beautifully preserved or restored antiques to charming and detailed collectible reproductions. Many dolls are complemented by lovely accessories such as buggies, cradles, table and chairs, and tea sets.

They were all generously loaned by Suffield residents and friends of the Hatheway House. The dolls will continue to be on exhibit through September 13th.

Built in 1761, the Hatheway House is regarded as one of New England's most important architectural landmarks. As you take the tour, the dolls

will first appear in the children's chamber room of the original part of the house. As the tour continues into the North Wing, you will enjoy the earliest example of neo-classical architecture in the Connecticut River Valley.

This area is decorated with original late-18th century French handblocked wallpapers and the brilliant colors serve as a wonderful background for more dolls.

Museum hours are Wed., Sat., and Sun, 1:00-4:00 p.m. The house will be open longer hours the weekend of the Suffield Craft Fair, Sept. 12th, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and Sept. 13th, 12:00 noon-4:00 p.m.

For more information, call the Hatheway House, 860-668-0337, or the A and L main office, 860-247-8996.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUBSCRIPTION OFFER for new subscribers only: buy one at full price for \$20 (good from September 1998 to June 30, 1999), send a second subscription to a friend or neighbor for FREE. Offer ends September 23rd; see our ad on Page 17 for an order form.



“FAMILY VALUES” will run amuck as Martha and Abby (Norma Cobb and Kathryn Leary) treat Suffield audiences to some “Arsenic and Old Lace.” Call 1-800-289-6149 for tickets!

“Arsenic And Old Lace” To Be Staged By Suffield Players

Suffield: It's as improbable a tale as any one could ever weave, but when woven by Joseph Kesselring, and staged by the Suffield Players, “ARSENIC AND OLD LACE” takes on a wild new comic life of its own.

This, despite the 12 (or 13) dead bodies, a naive fiancé, an even more naive leading man, two kindly, but very strange old ladies with a frightening twinkle in their eyes, one guy who thinks he's Teddy Roosevelt, and another guy who just happens to remind everyone of Boris Karloff.

Sounds like a typical Sunday afternoon at mom's, until director Dale Facey gets his cast of 14 into action, and if these characters sound strange ... they are!

Mark Russell is the ever-gullible Jonathan, with Monica Locklin as his sweetheart, Elaine. Norma Cobb and Kathryn Leary are our two loveable and lethal aunts, Rick Anderson leads the charge up San Juan Hill as “Teddy,” and Ed Gogulski seems to be Boris.

This bit of family values run amuck on October 8th, 9th, 10th, 16th, 17th, 23rd, and 24th at historic Mapleton Hall in Suffield; with first Thursday tickets \$10 and all other nights \$12, and discounts for seniors and students with proper I.D.

Doors open at 7:00 p.m. with curtain promptly at 8:00 p.m. For tickets, call toll free, 1-800-289-6149 and join the Players on a mad romp through the world of Abby, Martha, and their whole looney brood!

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12 noon.

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Who Was He?

Who was Jesus? If you don't accept Him as the true Savior, you must conclude that He was a phony, a madman, or that His disciples started the greatest hoax on earth.

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MADMAN? Self-deceived? Sincere but deluded about His own identity? His words and actions do not reflect the behavior of a person who is mentally unstable. Such a charge against Him does not explain the miracles, the brilliance of His teaching, nor His resurrection.

HOAX? Could the disciples have been guilty of painting a picture of Jesus that was far bigger than life? It doesn't make sense that all the disciples would conspire to create a monstrous lie that would contradict what they knew to be true. Would you die for what you knew was a lie? The disciples wouldn't have either, yet most of them died as martyrs.

TRUTH? We have good reason to believe that the Bible presents an accurate picture of Jesus Christ. His fulfillment of prophecy, His impact on history, His life and teachings, and the response of His disciples all point to a conclusion that He was and is all that He claimed to be—the Son of God.

Have you personally put your trust in Him as the One who died for you and who offers to you forgiveness of sin? Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me” (Jn. 14:6).

Excerpted from *Why Does It Make Sense To Believe In Christ?*
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Education

Registration Available For STCC's Evening And Weekend Courses

Registration is now going on for the fall semester of evening and weekend courses at Springfield Technical Community College, according to President Andrew M. Scibelli. Credit courses began the week of September 9th and will end on December 19th. Registration will continue through September 22nd, or before the second session of any class.

Selected classes are offered at extension centers at Agawam High School, East Longmeadow High School, Ludlow High School, and Palmer High School. Extension center classes began on September 10th, and registration is available at the main STCC campus at One Armory Square, Springfield.

Over 125 different credit courses are offered on the main campus in the areas of health sciences, business administration and computer information systems, engineering technologies, humanities, math and natural sciences, and social sciences. Most classes are held one evening a week. Some classes begin earlier at 4:00 p.m. and end at 7:00 p.m. There is also an expanded session of Saturday morning classes.

Associate degree programs offered through the evening division include Business Administration, Computer Information Systems, Early Childhood Education, Electrical Engineering Technology, Energy Systems Technology, General Studies, Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice, Liberal Arts Transfer, and Mechanical Engineering Technology.

Short-term certifying programs offered by the Division of Continuing Education include Architectural Technology; Computer-Aided Drafting; Computer-Aided Manufacturing; Computer-Integrated Manufacturing; Desktop Publishing; Electrical Technology; Fire Science; Heating/Ventilation/Air Conditioning; Information Systems; Medical Record Coding; and Microcomputer Specialist.

Registration hours are Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Payment may be made by cash, check, VISA, Discover, or MasterCard. Registration is also available by fax.

For more information, please call the STCC Division of Continuing Education at 781-1315.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays. Thank you ... AAN!!!

* * *

Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, September 14th: Steamed frankfort in roll, oven potato puffs with catsup, chilled peaches in syrup, milk.

Tuesday, September 15th: Deli-sliced turkey breast in roll with mayonnaise, lettuce, & tomato, rosy applesauce, chocolate cake with vanilla icing, milk.

Wednesday, September 16th: Grilled cheese sandwich, pickle chips, tossed garden salad with spinach greens & dressing, apricot crisp, milk.

Thursday, September 17th: Taco boat with cheese topping, niblet corn, parsley rice, pineapple tidbits, milk.

Friday, September 18th: Oven-baked chicken nuggets with honey, bread & butter, seasoned diced carrots, cinnamon applesauce, ice cream, milk.

Bay Path College Slates Open House For September 26th

Bay Path College will hold an Open House for prospective students and their families on Saturday, September 26th, from 10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

This informative session will include a campus tour; opportunity to meet Bay Path President Carol Leary and faculty members; a complimentary luncheon, the presentations *Marketing Yourself Through the College Application Essay* and *Real World Applications of a Bay Path Education*, and an overview of admissions, academics, and financial aid at the college.

For more information and to register, please call 413-565-1331 or toll free, 1-800-782-7284.

Classified ads cost just \$10 for 30 words or less; however, we DO NOT take them over the phone. Mail them with payment to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030, or bring them to our office.



ALISON SCHERBAN

Alison Scherban Receives Curran Memorial Scholarship

Congratulations to Alison Scherban, this year's recipient of the P. Joseph Curran Memorial Scholarship.

The scholarship, named for the founder of the Curran-Jones Funeral Homes, has been awarded annually for the last 26 years.

Alison, an Agawam High School graduate, has just begun her freshman year at Westfield State College. Dick and Joe Curran wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

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MICHELLE KOWALEWSKI

Michelle Kowalewski Now Attending Quinnipiac College

Michelle Kowalewski of Feeding Hills is attending Quinnipiac College this fall.

Kowalewski, a 1998 graduate of Agawam High School, is the daughter of Michael and Gail Kowalewski. She plans to major in occupational therapy.

While in high school, she was captain of the varsity cheerleading squad and a member of the National Honor Society, Future Teachers of America, and the Yearbook Committee.

Quinnipiac College is a private, nonsectarian, coeducational institution located in Hamden, Connecticut. The college has approximately 230 full-time faculty and enrolls 3,500 full-time undergraduates and 2,000 graduate students in its Schools of Business, Health Sciences, Law, and Liberal Arts.

Quinnipiac College is one of the top regional universities in the country. Quinnipiac College is located at 275 Mt. Carmel Avenue, Hamden, Connecticut.

Jr. High School To Hold Annual "Back- To-School" Night

Agawam Junior High School Principal Kevin C. Littlefield has announced that a "Back-To-School Night" will be conducted for parents on Monday, September 14th, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Parents are advised to meet in the school auditorium at 6:30 p.m., where the evening's format will be explained and directions will be given to homerooms. At 7:00 p.m., parents of seventh- and eighth-grade students will follow their child's daily schedule and meet with subject teachers in a classroom setting.

Littlefield suggests that parents bring their child's agenda/planner with them to "Back-To-School Night," since its usage will be reviewed and it contains their child's daily class schedule.

He explains that teacher presentations will highlight exactly what students have been told during their first class meetings. Included will be course expectations, homework, testing, project work, discipline, and attendance.

Littlefield points out that the brief meeting time will not allow parents to discuss personal aspects of their child's education with teachers. Conference nights for that purpose have been scheduled in the near future.

AHS's Class Of 1949 Slates 50th Reunion

The Agawam High School Class of 1949 is planning its 50th reunion. If you have any information about the whereabouts of the following graduates, please contact Dottie (Taddia) Fitzgerald at (413) 733-6259:

Arlene (Myers) Babcock, Marilyn (Talbot) Meyers, Eugene Berard, Mike Chimilewski, Shirley (Shaw) Larson, John McCool, James Scott, and Bob Sealander.

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Agawam Library Has Expanded Services For Preschoolers

The Agawam Public Library has joined the AGAWAM PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN in providing expanded services for local preschool children and their caregivers.

A grant from the Massachusetts Department of Education to the Agawam Public Schools Early Childhood Department has made it possible for the library to share additional materials and resources for young children. Grant funds provide for temporary additional library program staffing, as well as specially selected materials for pre-readers.

Agawam and Feeding Hills preschool childcare and education providers are invited to the library on Friday mornings at 10:00 a.m. beginning September 18th for storytimes specifically designed for them and the children in their care. Developed by library staff member Judith Clini, each session will include stories, crafts, and related activities and will be followed by a playtime in the library's Community Room. Caregivers may register for these programs at the library or by telephone.

Other services include "Kits for Kids," in which caregivers may borrow individualized kits packed with age-appropriate books, puppets, and puzzles, as well as book lists covering a variety of themes relating to preschoolers. There will also be some special evening and Saturday programs throughout the year.

A monthly newsletter detailing these new services and programs is available through the library. Local caregivers of preschoolers may register for the mailing list by calling the library at 789-1550.

For photo coverage, contact AAN Photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053; however, please give him at least 48 hours' notice.

* * *



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Please address all entries & checks to: Agawam High School Athletics, C/O Kathy McSweeney, 760 Cooper St., Agawam.
For more information call Kathy McSweeney at 821-0529 or Agawam High School at 821-0530.

Entry Form

Entry Fee: \$50.00 per golfer

Preferred Foursome

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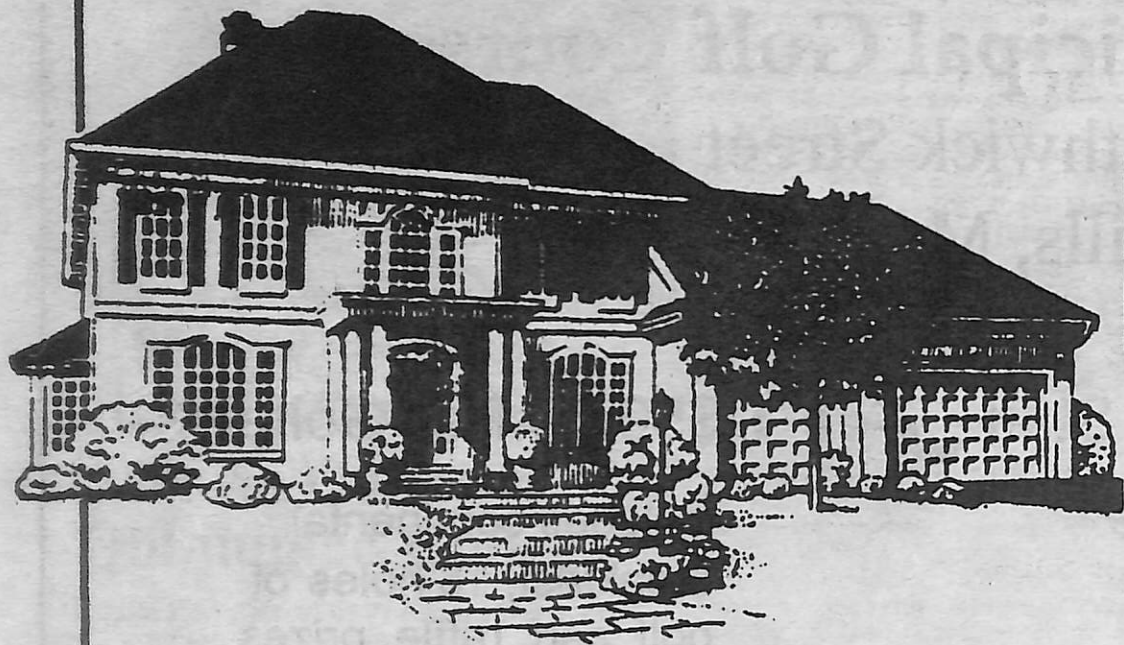
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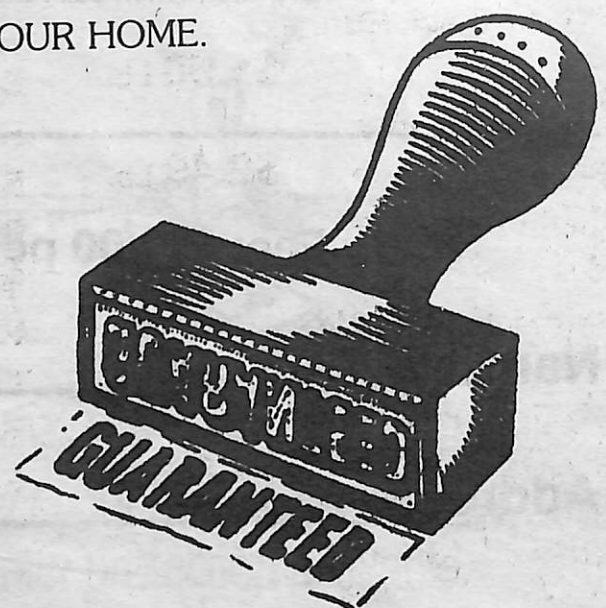
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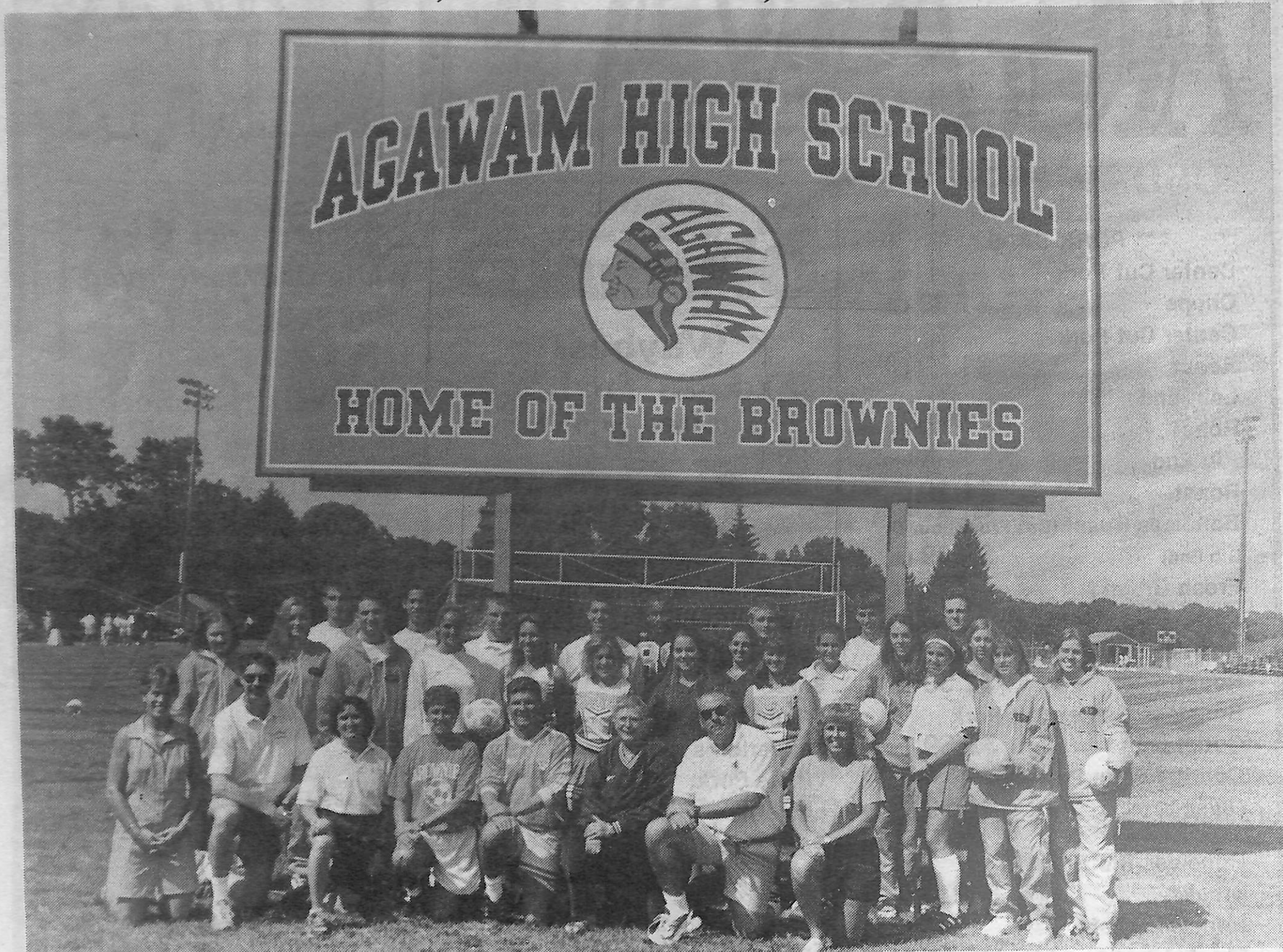
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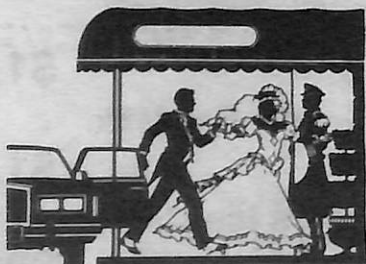
We're Brownies, We're Proud, And We're Ready!



ATHLETIC DIRECTOR KATHY MCSWEENEY (kneeling, far left) poses with the coaches and captains of Agawam High's 1998 fall athletic teams in front of the newly installed sign at Harmon Smith Field. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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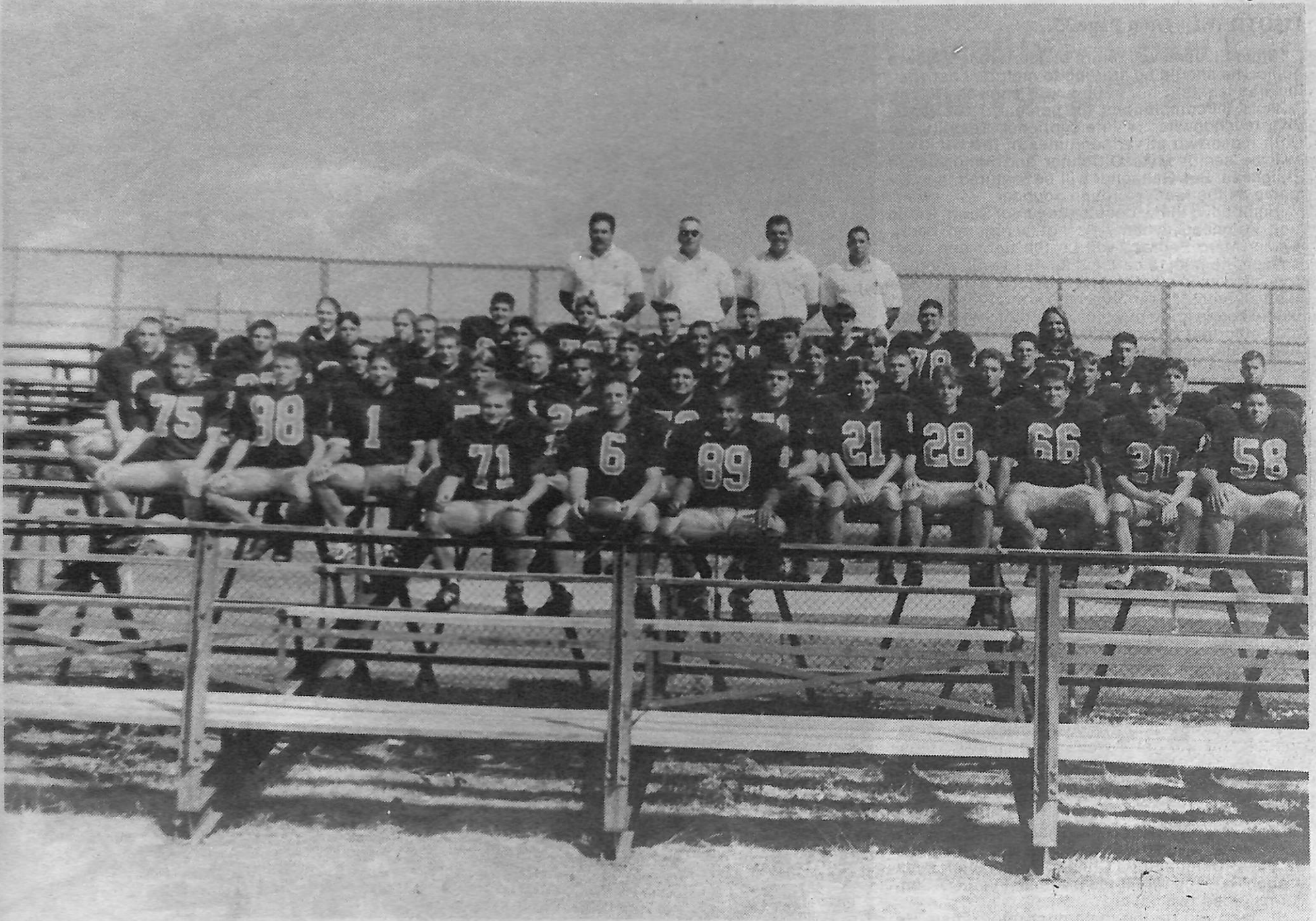
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AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL'S varsity football team is looking forward to the 1998 campaign on the gridiron. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

AHS Football Preview...

Brownies Begin Season With Positive Attitude

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The 1998 edition of the Agawam High football Brownies will go into the new season with a positive attitude, no internal problems, and a memory lapse of last season's 3-6-1 record.

At least that's what head Coach Dean Vecchiarelli hopes will happen. The team lost some key people who will have to be replaced. Wide receiver Mike Wing is one of them. Last year, "Winger" was an important member of the pass grabbers, with 25 catches for 478 yards and three touchdowns. He helped out on defense as well, with an interception he ran back for a 97-yard score against West Side. He was also a dangerous kickoff return man (eight for 118 yards).

Another kid who they'll have to replace is Eric Melbourne. He only played in six of their 10 games. But when he was in the lineup, the big guy caught 20 balls for 331 yards and had a 50-yard TD reception.

Also gone is blocking back Vinny Curto, along with defensive back Andy St. Jean and standout linemen Ryan Wilson and Darrell Malachowski.

But Vecchiarelli thinks they have the horses to offset those losses. The biggest horse of all is senior tailback **Brian Gallagher** at 6'2", 225 pounds. He is a load-and-a-half. Last season, he gained 929 yards on 211 carries (4.4 ypc), including a 256-yard, four-touchdown gem in a 33-8 win over Holyoke. Gallagher was going for a 1,000-yard season. Unfortunately, he was injured just before halftime in last year's Thanksgiving Day, 27-8 win against West Springfield and wound up with 30 yards on seven carries.

Vecchiarelli hopes to run him 20 to 25 times a game out of their new wing-t formation. "Can you imagine having to hit him for an entire game?" The coach smiled. Gallagher can also catch the football. He had seven receptions for 60 yards in 1997, although they probably won't go to him all that much this season in the air.

SEE FOOTBALL - Page 36...

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FOOTBALL - from Page 35...

Brian St. Jean will return at quarterback. Now a junior, he should be starting to mature. Last year, he was learning his trade and it showed (183 attempts, 69 completions - 36 percent, 1,102 yards, five touchdowns, 14 interceptions). Teaming up with those two at various times in the backfield will be senior **Mike O'Connor** and junior **Jason Daigneau**. But Gallagher will be featured in every game as the team's ground pounder.

Right now, the wideouts are junior **Scott Harlin** and **Daigneau** (when he's not a running back). Senior **Marc Pedraza** will be the tight end. Last season, he had 12 catches for 121 yards and two touchdowns in a limited capacity. He'd like to see the ball more. "Yeah, if things are on the line, I'd like to be the go-to guy," he admitted. Vecchiarelli indicated that he would try to work Pedraza into the passing offense.

A "Veteran" Offensive Line...

The offensive line is pretty much a veteran group. **Eric Pedersen**, a 6', 190-pound junior, will move to center from his guard position. He will be flanked by 5'10", 190-pound **Bob Fuller** at right guard. This will be the senior's first time at that position. He had been a running back on offense. His left guard will be 6', 230-pound senior **Mike Lovely**, last year's center. **Rob Liard**, a 6', 230-pound senior, will anchor left tackle.

A lot of the team's problems came on defense last season. Vecchiarelli has made improvements in the defensive line. "We'll go five-two or three-four. We feel there are kids going out for those positions who can play," he said. "We'll have at least five kids alternating there." According to the coach, they'll be **Lovely**, senior **T.J. Sexton**, junior **Jeremiah Graves**, **Liard**, and **Frank Ferentino** (plus some others who will see spot action). "We hope they'll keep fresh that way," the coach said.

Linebacking has always been a Brownie strong point. It will be again this year. **Fuller**, **Gallagher**, and **Pedraza** will get the bulk of the playing time. They are the team's tri-captains, and all of them can hit and all of them have a nose for the ball. **Gallagher** had a sack and an interception last season. **Pedraza** turned in a sack and fumble recovery. **Fuller** recorded two sacks.

The defensive backs will be made up of **Harlin**, **St. Jean**, **Daigneau**, **O'Connor**, and senior **Ryan Drobot**. **St. Jean** had three picks last year. **O'Connor** recorded two.

St. Jean will be the main punt return man. He averaged eight yards a return last season. **Fuller** and **Daigneau** will handle kick-off returns.

Along with **Gallagher** doing the bulk of the running work, Vecchiarelli also wants to get **St. Jean** involved in the ground game. The kid had 162 yards on 20 carries (an 8.1 average), including a 59-yarder for a touchdown against West Side.

In the end, the coach wants a balanced attack. But he'll also take what the other team gives him. Last Saturday, they looked good in a scrimmage at East Longmeadow against the Spartans, Pathfinder, and Frontier Regional. This Saturday, September 11th, they'll scrimmage at Hoosic Valley.

Two teams have been added to the schedule and two dropped. The Brownies will open at Greenfield on Friday, September 18th (the Green Wave replaces Northampton). The next Friday night, Agawam hosts Longmeadow (which replaces Chicopee).



IN PHOTO ABOVE: The members of AHS's 1998 football team have been working hard in anticipation of the season-opening contest on Friday, September 18th, at Greenfield. IN PHOTO BELOW: Coach Dean Vecchiarelli (far left) observes a blocking drill. Advertiser News photos by Dave Rollins.



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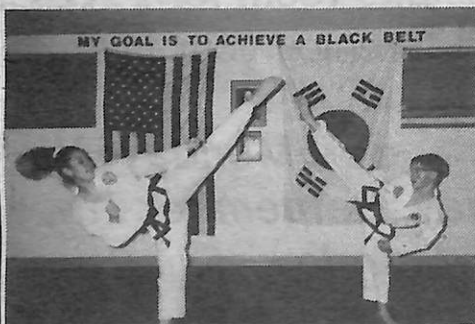
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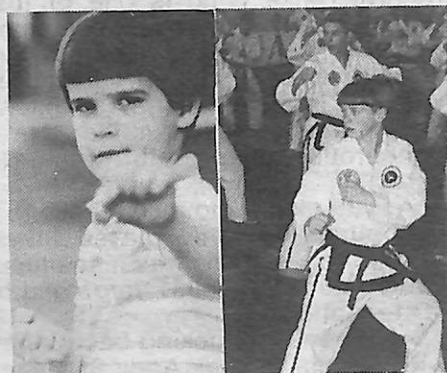
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AHS Golf Preview...

Coach Bachini Believes Team's Experience Can Handle Competition

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

For two straight years, the Agawam High golf team has been the Valley Wheel champion, with a two-season, 38-2 record in the wheel.

According to veteran Coach Paul Bachini (who is going into his 18th season), he has a contender again. His marquee golfer is senior **Jeff Rousseau**, who was the Western Mass. champion as a sophomore, as well as being a member of the All-Western Mass. team all three years he has been teeing it up for the Brownies. "Jeff will be our number one," the coach said.

He feels Rousseau will get plenty of help this season, however, as they swing their way through what will be another tough Western Mass. tour. Junior **Shawn Biebel** will hold down the second spot. Biebel is a left-hander. "Right now, he has a slight draw. As a lefty, that can hurt him on some of the courses we play because many of them are right to left. He's working on it, though," the coach observed.

Sophomore **Andy Green** shoots out of the third spot. "Andy has been working hard on his game. He'll be ready," the coach said.

Number four is freshman **Bill Menard**. Bachini admitted that while Menard might be new to the team, his enthusiasm should make up for any lack of experience he might have.

The fifth spot will be held down by veteran senior **Bill Gensheimer**, while the sixth and seventh positions will see two juniors, **Ryan Morgan** and **Bill Woods**, battle it out there all season long.

"We have experience again this year. These kids are eager to get things going," he said. Then he added, "Two teams will be very tough — East Longmeadow and West Springfield." They play those two next week on September 15th and 16th, respectively.

Golf Team Wins First Match... Brownies Defeat South Hadley On The Links At Home Opener

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High golf team teed it high and let it fly Tuesday afternoon, rolling over South Hadley, 15-3 at the Agawam Municipal Golf Course.

This was supposed to be a showcase battle between the two number one players on each team. For the Brownies, it was senior star **Chris Rousseau**. For South Hadley, it was junior **Keith Orien**. It was a no-brainer as Rousseau, with a three-under-par 32, easily outclassed Orien's 36. "Something was written about Keith. About how good he is. Keith is pretty good. I just wanted people to know that I'm still around," Rousseau smiled thinly.

Rousseau birdied the first, sixth, and eighth holes while shooting par for the rest of his round. Perhaps the long, par 5 eighth showed just how long his game can be. After a 260-yard drive, he had a 225-yard iron to the green. "I took out my two iron and gave it a good swing," the former Western Mass. champion said. The ball landed 20 yards from the fringe. Then, a crisp chip shot gave him a 10-foot birdie opportunity, which he drained.

Rousseau had to scramble a bit on the par three ninth. His tee shot landed 10 yards left of the green. It was only a slight bit of trouble. He calmly chipped to five feet above the pin. A par putt saved his three under round.

Also showing well for the Brownies was **Shawn Biebel**, who shoots out of the number two spot and shot a one under 34. Another good performance was turned in by freshman **Bill Menard**. The rookie, fighting first match jitters, turned in a 40, but got praise from Coach Paul Bachini, who felt the youngster will be playing par golf before the season is over.

SPORTS EDITOR Dave Rollins is another reason why you turn our pages every week ... AAN!!!

Girls' Soccer Preview...

Agawam Team's "New Identity" Is Part Of Coach Murray's Philosophy For 1998 Season

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High girls' soccer team took quite a hit after the 1997 season. Graduation cost them three talented players - **Kristen Patterson**, **Amy Mastroianni**, and **Amber Conte**. And senior forward **Barbara Maloni** opted to play volleyball this fall. Patterson had 30 goals and nine assists a year ago. Maloni chipped in with 11 goals and four assists. Mastroianni and Conte played solid, in-your-face defense in the midfield.

Yet, Coach **Mary Murray**, as she has for her entire coaching career, continues to be upbeat. Part of it has to do with the start of training camp. "This is the first year since I started here that I've had a team where everyone is healthy and in great shape," she said.

Another part is her philosophy this time around. "We are a team with a new identity. Now, instead of a few go-to people, everyone is expected to contribute."

21 Varsity Players

The 21 kids she has on the varsity will be tougher to defend, according to the coach. "I told them everyone will play a role this year, whether it is as a full-time starter or a part-time player."

To that end, the coach has challenged the kids: "I want them to be able to play two positions. I know they are talented enough to do that."

And they do have a bunch of talented people back or up from the junior varsity to play in her 4-2 offense. Among them are sweeper **Sheri Benton**, defender **Elise Alfano**, the always hustling forward **Gina Loudfoot**, veteran **Dianna DiStefano**, midfielder **Amanda Tilden**, defender **Elise Alfano**, the athletic **Melissa Cote**, and goalie **Franca Bonavita**. Murray also noted that **Pam Gervais** will be back after spending the summer recovering from an injury.

The coach made her choice for captain a few days ago - senior **Jess Dutton**. "I told Jess she'll be a role player. She's the kind of kid who will do anything for the team. That's one of the reasons she is a captain."

Game Captain

Murray stressed that there will also be a game captain. "So many of these kids are selfless and dedicated, that for every game, someone who has shown outstanding work ethics during games and practices, will be a co-captain with Jess," she said.



SENIOR JESS DUTTON, the captain of the AHS girls' soccer team. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

The coach still thinks now and then of last season's disappointment, when a 5-2 loss to East Longmeadow cost them the league title. "That

SEE GIRLS' SOCCER - Page 38...

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A Look At AHS's Fall 1998 Athletes...



WITH THE START OF SCHOOL EACH FALL, fans of Agawam High School's fall sports look forward to the talent, pride, and determination that have been the hallmarks of the Brownies for many, many years. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Fall Preview...

Cross Country Returns To The Lineup Of Agawam High School's Autumn Athletics

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

A new sport will grace the Agawam High outdoor terrain this fall — cross country. (Actually, this sport is returning after being dropped in the early 1980's.) Bill Dillon, the long-time cross country coach at West Springfield High and the current coach of the Agawam boys' track team, will run the show.

"We have our course. It's at Robinson State Park. I think the kids will find it challenging," he smiled. The course is 3.1 miles or 5K. The terrain is undulating, with hills and valleys, plus some rugged places here and there. The coach noted that unlike some courses around the area, spectators will have a hard time seeing the runners.

"About the only time they'll be visible will be at the start and finish lines, which, by the way, are not in the same place. We feel it's a runner's course," he said.

Seven boys and 13 girls turned out for the

fledgling squad. "We had one freshman (a girl). Everyone is untested in this sport, which requires endurance," Dillon noted. They have been practicing on the roads, but the coach admitted that without some live competition, it will be tough to tell just how they'll do.

"I don't know just how long it will take a runner to complete the course. We'll have to wait for our first home meet, which will be at Robinson on September 25th," he said.

They begin their season next Monday, September 14th, at West Side. Their captains are Kelly Willett and Kristen Pisano for the girls and Jason Gagne for the boys.

*You turn our
pages for all
the high school
sports news...*

GIRLS' SOCCER - from Page 37...

was a gut check game. One that we needed badly," she shook her head. Then, with a fourth seed in the playoffs and a first-round home game against Pittsfield, the roof really caved in. They'd beaten the Generals, 3-1, in the final regular season game, only to lose to them, 5-4, thus, ending their season. "I don't think this team will let what happened to us at the end of last season happen again," she said.

Murray also has a new assistant, Lisa Tassone. "Lisa started four years for me in goal when I was coaching at Cathedral. She then went on to star at American International College. I'm happy to have her on my staff," the coach smiled.

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Golf Tip Of The Week...

Compiled by
Jim Modzelesky,
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Try Watching The Cup...

If you're unhappy with your putting, try this unconventional method.

Look at the cup as you stroke the ball. Watching the target may seem like an outlandish idea, but remember that in certain sports (such as basketball, hockey, and bowling), you always keep your eyes on the target.

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Jim Modzelesky's "Golf Tip Of The Week" is another reason why you turn our pages...



MEMBERS OF THE Sacred Heart Indians: front row - Kyle Perry, Scott Santinello, Jeff Neilsen, and Alan Bishop; second row - T.J. Hamilton, Mike Bachini, Anthony Manzi, and Aaron D'Amario; third row - Dan Korney, Chris Rheault, Tommy Gorman, Justin Perry, Vinnie Moretti, and Mike Locke; back row - Coaches Steve Neilsen, Tom Korney, Fred Perry, and Tom Hamilton.

S.H.A.A. Indians Win Belchertown Tourney

The Sacred Heart Indians won the Belchertown Tournament held at Chestnut Hill School from July 30th to August 9th.

In the first game, S.H.A.A. defeated a team from Ludlow by the Mercy Rule score of 32-0. Mike Locke threw the shutout for the Indians.

In game two of the tournament, the Indians were up against St. Catherine's of Springfield. Jeff Neilsen pitched all five innings as S.H.A.A. again won by the Mercy Rule, 28-2.

In the third game, the boys from S.H.A.A. took the field against a Springfield Police-sponsored team. This team had a combination of players from various Springfield teams, including some that had just returned from a regional tournament in New York and other players who had just finished playing in the *Daily News* Tournament.

This game was a very well pitched game as the Indians held a 5-2 lead going into the bottom of the seventh. S.H.A.A. needed only three outs to win the game, but Springfield scored two runs to make the score 5-4, and had the tying run on second base and only one out, but pitcher Vinnie Moretti got the batter to pop to first base and Chris Rheault caught the ball, then doubled the runner off second base to end the game. Moretti threw the complete game for the Indians.

Game four featured the only two teams that had not lost, S.H.A.A. and Wilbraham. These two teams had met twice in the Palmer tournament with the Indians winning both games, 3-1 and 15-7.

Sacred Heart controlled this game from the start and built a 5-0 lead after five innings. Sacred

Heart could have been ahead by eight or nine runs if they had not had so many runners thrown out on the bases. Pitcher Mike Locke took a no-hitter into the sixth, but then the roof caved in and by the time Wilbraham had finished batting, it was a 5-4 game, which ended up being the final score as Dan Korney squeezed the final out of the game in leftfield with the tying run on third base.

On Sunday, the Indians were in the Championship against the Springfield Police, who had to beat the Indians twice. Again, the boys from Sacred Heart started fast and built an early 6-0 lead.

Mike Locke pitched the first six innings and Vinnie Moretti pitched the seventh as the Indians won their second consecutive tournament, 7-3. Justin Perry and Moretti assaulted the fence several times but just couldn't get the ball over the 280-foot fences.

The Indians finished at 17-0 for the summer, scoring 284 runs and allowing 71 runs. Moretti (.647), Perry (.588), Anthony Manzi (.571), Kyle Perry (.571), Alan Bishop (.529), Aaron D'Amario (.529), Neilsen (.529), Locke (.500), and Mike Bachini (.400) led the Indians in hitting in the Belchertown Tournament.

Other players contributing were Korney, Rheault, Tommy Gorman, T.J. Hamilton, and Scott Santinello. Coaches were Fred Perry, Tom Korney, Steve Neilsen, and Tom Hamilton. Also, thanks again to Roy Bishop for our team photos.

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IN LEFT PHOTO: Dave Shaw (far left), the new president of the Agawam Soccer Association, and Riverside Soccer Tournament Director Jim Stevenson present a plaque to Shari Blackman (center), public relations spokesperson for Riverside Amusement Park, on behalf of Riverside's contributions to the tournament. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Shaw and Stevenson present a plaque to Frank Basile, project manager of Berkshire Power, to express appreciation to Berkshire Power for its support of the tournament. Advertiser

News photos by Jack Devine.

A Tradition For 14 Years...

Riverside Labor Day Weekend Soccer Classic Once Again A Success

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Riverside Labor Day Weekend Soccer Classic, sponsored by the Agawam Soccer Association and held at fields all over Agawam, has been around now for 14 years. It is the biggest youth tournament attraction in New England on Labor Day Weekend if you are a fan of the sport on the youth level.

Dave Shaw, the new president of the Agawam Soccer Association, was all smiles on Monday afternoon, despite the thunderstorms that intermittently stalked the skies above him. "After two days in the heat, the rain was somewhat of a welcome relief," he smiled.

But what was really welcome was the fact that everything, in an event so big, went according to plan. "The fans, the kids, the soccer parents and coaches, the officials, the volunteers, and the administrative staff earned high marks. On a scale of one to 10, everyone gets a nine," he observed.

Two aspects, in particular, impressed him. "The level of competition gets higher every year. The kids are coached better. They are also bigger and stronger. We had tough, low-scoring games, with many ending in overtime and shootouts," said Shaw.

A lot of that had to do with the tournament's

Director of Team Seeding, Mike Dobise (a long-time ASA board member), who mixed and matched and came up with the best draw possible.

The medical staff was also outstanding, according to Shaw. "We have six people in that department. As always, in something as big as the Classic, injuries are going to happen. Some will be serious. They were always right there."

"In one instance, a life was very possibly saved because of their quick and professional action. A kid's mother gave him some inhalant because of the heat. The youngster had an allergic reaction and suddenly stopped breathing. The EMTs responded immediately and everything turned out fine."

Minimal Traffic Problems...

Traffic problems around town were minimal.

"We tried to stagger the games so everyone wouldn't be going to the same venue at once. That helped," Shaw noted. Also, the fact that so many fields were used (13 in all), the action was spread around. And the Agawam Police were also a factor, making sure when things did start to snarl up, they unsnarled in short order.

The tournament committee will have one more meeting now to put the 1998 edition of the Classic to bed. That will come in October. Then, they'll start planning for next year in November.

"I think it all came home to me on Saturday, when my wife and I took some time out to go shopping in Westfield. Everywhere we looked, coming and going, there were kids in their team colors enjoying themselves with their parents," Shaw smiled, adding, "They were all playing in our tournament."

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Volunteering At The "Classic"...



MARY LOU & WAYNE MARRA sold Riverside Soccer Classic t-shirts at the Agawam High School site during last weekend's annual event. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



ONCE AGAIN, a multitude of volunteers were on hand to make the Riverside Labor Day Weekend Soccer Classic a memorable and enjoyable experience for everyone involved. The members of the Agawam Soccer Association truly appreciate all of the time and effort that are expended on behalf of the young athletes, and starting in November, they'll begin planning for and looking forward to next year's "classic." Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

A Total Of 121 Teams Competed Over Labor Day Weekend...

Agawam Youth Soccer Takes A 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place In Riverside Classic

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

There were 121 teams from as far away as Portland, Maine, and Nashua, New Hampshire, in the just-completed Riverside Labor Day Weekend Soccer Classic, hosted by the Agawam Soccer Association. Agawam was represented by 17 clubs that play in the Pioneer Valley Junior Soccer League; 10 in the boys' division and seven on the girls' side.

When the action was done on Labor Day afternoon, the town had one champion, a runner-up, and a third-place finisher. They all came in the girls' half of the draw.

The Lightning captured the U13 crown. They did it with a 6-0 record, beating in succession West Hartford (4-2), Portland (3-0), Nashua (2-0), and Natick (4-0) on Saturday and Sunday. They beat AJAC of Chicopee in the semis and grabbed the crown with a 3-0 win over Amherst on Labor Day.

The Agawam Tigers were runners-up in the U14's. They deserved better. Wins over Natick (3-0), Northampton (1-0), Nashua (5-0), and the West Side Wildcats (1-0) saw them go into Monday's round without a goal against on their record. They continued their stellar defense with a 2-0 semi-final win over Framingham after two over-

times and a shootout. But as luck would have it, they lost in the finals, 1-0, to the Natick Challenge.

The Agawam Hot Shots took third in the U11's. They tied Braintree (2-2), then beat Auburn (4-3), AJAC (2-1), and Gateway (6-0). Ludlow beat them 2-1 in the semis. It was an exciting overtime contest. They came back to down Chicopee AJAC (1-0) in the consolation game.

Tournament Director Jim Stevenson was happy with that outcome. "There were tough draws on both the girls' and boys' sides. The girls played some inspired soccer," he noted, then added, "The boys will come along in time."

He had a funny story about U13 Lightning Coach Scott Skolnick: "Mike Dobise (the tournament's game scheduler) and I were with Scotty, trying to decide where we would put his team in the draw. We decided where he would go — and it was a tough group. Scotty had said at the time, 'That's okay.'"

"Then he thought about it for a moment and said, 'We're not going to score a single goal, are we?' His club, of course, ended up scoring 21 on their way to their title," Stevenson laughed.

Parks & Rec. Dept. Taking Applications For Several Positions

The Town of Agawam's Parks and Recreation Department has announced that applications are currently being accepted for the following positions:

Water Safety Instructor, Swim Team Co-Coach, Assistant Swim Team Coach, Program Supervisors, and Basketball Officials.

Applicants must be 16 years or older to be eligible for employment. Salary ranges are dependent upon position and experience.

Applications are available at the Recreation Office, 760 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA 01001. For more information, call the Agawam Recreation Department at 821-0514.

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Annual Cheerleader Golf Tourney Slated For Sat., October 17th

The annual Agawam Cheerleader Golf Tournament Fundraiser has been scheduled for Saturday, October 17th, beginning with a shotgun start at 12:00 noon at Oak Ridge Country Club.

The entry fee is \$50 per person, which includes a cookout, raffle prizes, and contests such as "closest to the pin" and "longest drive."

For information and/or registration forms, please contact Ken or Sandi at 789-2709. Hope to see you there!

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Agawam Tigers Place Second In Their Final Riverside Classic

After six games in any soccer tournament, a team that allows just one single goal from start to finish virtually is assured of walking away with the championship trophy.

No so for the U14 Agawam Tigers in the Riverside Labor Day Weekend Soccer Classic hosted by the Agawam Soccer Association. The Tigers reached the title game vs. the Natick Challenge on a rainy, slippery holiday afternoon after winning five straight games, including a morning semi-final shootout vs. Framingham, without allowing a ball into their net.

The Tigers came into the Riverside Classic with the immediate goal of reaching the title game and being able to play for the first time on the Stadium Field in this, their final Labor Day Tournament as Agawam Tigers. The second goal was to win the whole thing, and only a 35-yard Natick tally from a direct kick prevented this from happening.

The win didn't come easily for Natick. After a tight first half where Natick held the territorial edge (but the Tigers had the better scoring chances), the visitors led 1-0. Their goal, on a direct kick awarded after a takedown, sailed to the upper left corner where goalie Vicky Taylor leaped for the ball, momentarily had it, and then the slippery, slimy ball gently fell over the goal line.

The second half was all Tigers, especially in the final 15 minutes when the home folks buzzed the Natick net and nearly scored on six occasions. Wing Kaitlin Sardella led the offensive surge, which was fueled by the dominant play of fullbacks Danielle Cirillo, Tricia Fitchben, Sherri Laskowski, Ellen Rannenberg, and sweeper Kim Hoague.

Part of the spark was provided by midfielders Sabrina Brizzolari and Nicole Gendreau in those minutes where the Tigers were on a relentless attack late in the game.

With under two minutes left, Danielle Cirillo (who had a monster weekend for the fullbacks) began deep in her own end, dribbled through five Natick defenders, sent a pass to Kaitlin Sardella, and Kaitlin's shot from 25 yards out was on target for the far post only to be tipped wide by Natick's fine goalie at the last second.

In their semi-final win over Framingham, the Tigers won after two overtimes and a shootout, 2-0. The Tigers dominated this game from start to finish. The midfield, led by Whitney Brown, Meaghan Brown, Aimee Beaudette, Sabrina Brizzolari, Nicole Gendreau, and Victoria Ruhl, kept the Tigers' forwards deep in the Framingham zone.

Despite many good chances to score, the best was missed when right wing Kaitlin Sardella grabbed a ball at the top of the penalty area in the first overtime and her shot banged off the crossbar and out-of-bounds.



MEMBERS OF THE U14 Agawam Tigers, runners-up in the Riverside Labor Day Weekend Soccer Classic. Back row, from left - Jennifer Sharpe, Kim Hoague, Sherri Laskowski, Ellen Rannenberg, Melissa Savenko, Kelly Reilly, Danielle Cirillo, Victoria Ruhl, Whitney Brown, and Tricia Fitchben. Kneeling - Sabrina Brizzolari, Nicole Gendreau, Kaitlin Sardella, Vicky Taylor, Meaghan Brown, and Aimee Beaudette. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

In the shootout, Whitney Brown and Kaitlin Sardella provided the goals for Agawam and goalie Vicky Taylor made a key stop on Framingham's first shot as the others all flew over the net.

The Tigers opened the tournament on Saturday morning with a 3-0 victory over Natick Blasters. Wing Jennifer Sharpe scored the first goal on an assist from Aimee Beaudette and Kaitlin Sardella added a goal midway through the first half and early in the second half to secure the win.

Midfielders Whitney Brown, Meaghan Brown, and Aimee Beaudette all played well, and Kelly Reilly and Melissa Savenko also moved the ball well for the forward wall.

Improved league opponent Northampton provided the opposition on the Junior High's main field on Saturday afternoon. The Tigers' 1-0 victory

was hard-earned all the way.

Kaitlin Sardella scored the game's only tally two minutes in when she one-timed a lefthanded volley into the net from 10 yards out.

But Northampton stormed back in the second half, especially in the final 12 minutes. Here, goalie Vicky Taylor (very strong game, especially in the final anxious moments) and the backline of Ellen Rannenberg, Danielle Cirillo, Sherri Laskowski, Tricia Fitchben, and sweeper Kim Hoague held the fort despite being under constant pressure.

On Sunday morning, the Tigers outdistanced Nashua, 5-0. Wing Kaitlin Sardella had three goals and two assists, including a goal off a corner kick that found the corner of the far post, while Vicky Taylor came out of the goal in the second half to score her fourth of the season. Meaghan Brown opened the scoring with a nice tally in front of the

SEE AGAWAM TIGERS - Page 43...

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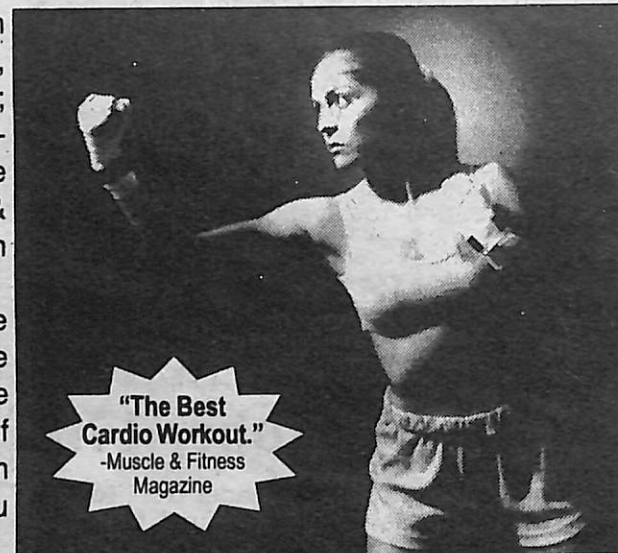
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Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis
Outdoor Writer

Tuna Time

"Got em," came the satisfied grunt as one of the 28 anglers aboard the Yankee Captains set the hook on a hefty yellowfin tuna.

After a 14-hour trip to the tuna grounds and a full afternoon and evening of trolling the canyon edges, we had started "chunking" for the night bite.

The crew of the Yankee Captains had carefully cut up about a hundred pounds of butterfish and were chumming to bring the tuna close to the boat. We were anchored in 500-plus feet of water near the canyon edge.

While fishing whole butterfish, many of us were busy using squid jigs to catch live squid, the perfect tuna bait. The squid were attracted to the floodlights that illuminate the main deck and the water around the hull.

It was a freshly-caught live squid that tempted the first yellowfin of the night. Mike Wars from York, Pennsylvania was battling his first tuna. Using the boat-supplied Daiwa stand-up rods and Penn 114H reels loaded with 100-pound mono, Mike put his bodybuilding regimen to good use. The term "bust a gut" takes on a real personal meaning when one of these seagoing locomotives decides to leave the station!

Mike's second tuna of the night came about a half-hour later. Midway through a 15-minute battle, Mike handed the rod to one of his buddies to give him a chance to land a big fish and rest his own weary arms.

As night gave way to dawn, the lines were pulled in and the ship ran to another location to begin trolling. The three-hour run gave us a chance to catch 40 winks before Capt. Greg Mercurio began setting up the outriggers and 10 trolling rods for the first of three, 10-man (and woman) trolling teams.

As the ship passed close to the deep water lobster buoys and hi-flier radar reflectors, schools of Mahi-Mahi attacked the lures in the trolling spread. The Mahi-Mahi are also known as dolphin-fish, or dorado. The Hawaiian name Mahi-Mahi is now commonly used because many people who knew this fish as "dolphin" were criticized for catching "Flipper," who is a mammal.

The Mahi-Mahi is prized as a food fish and is perhaps the most beautifully colored fish in the sea. Over 30 of these scrappy fish were boated while we trolled for tuna. The Pennsylvania contingent came through again when Snug Brown of York, Pennsylvania landed the largest Mahi-Mahi, a 20-pound-plus beauty.

An added bonus was when one of the women hooked a blue marlin of probably 400 pounds-plus. The big billfish came out of the water shaking his massive head, and threw the hook. It was a spectacular scene and perked up everybody's enthusiasm.

The captains and crew of the Yankee Captains really embody the concept of teamwork and practiced professionalism. When a big fish is hooked,

the mates are at your side, clearing other lines and offering expert advice.

It is not uncommon for an angler to end up "riding the rails" as a large fish takes him around the boat during the fight. The crew has plenty of work on their hands when there are multiple hook-ups.

It is often necessary to pass the rod over and around other fishermen during the course of the fight, and their success in keeping lines from tangling is amazing.

The gallery serves up hearty breakfasts and the usual lunchtime fare. The evening meal is provided and no one walked away hungry.

Perhaps it was the two recent hurricanes (Danielle was about 300 miles away) that messed up the fishing to an extent, but a good time was had by everyone. By the crew's standard, it was a slow trip fishwise, but they did everything possible to make it successful.

The Yankee Captains will be offering overnight tuna trips throughout September and October, before moving to their winter headquarters in Key West, Florida.

I will be fishing with this crew again at the end of the month. While the shorter trips are solidly booked, there is still some room on the three-day trip that departs on the 29th of September from Captain Leroy's Marina in Fairhaven, Maine.

If you want a chance for some real adventure, give me a call and I can fill you in on the details, or contact the Yankee Fleet at 1-800-942-5464.

FISH REPORT FRESH WATER

Quabbin fishermen are scoring on lakers and salmon out of gate 8. The fish are holding 50-70 feet down over 100-plus feet of water. A good fishfinder and downrigger set-up should almost guarantee fish. Rapala lures in sizes 9-11 in silver are hot. Little Cleo's also are producing along with Mooselock's.

Connecticut River bass fishing is holding up fine. Some nice largemouth and smallmouth are being taken adjacent to the deeper weedlines. Carp fishermen are reporting good action along the West Springfield and Holyoke stretch on corn. There is still some action on schoolie stripers in the stretch above the Enfield Dam, especially the weed flat around Riverside at dawn and dusk.

Congamond and Hampton Ponds are producing bass if you can manage to avoid the boat traffic. Try fishing these two bodies of water at night. Some very respectable action can be found using buzz baits on the outside edges of shallow weedlines after dark.

SALT WATER

Striper action remains steady along the Connecticut and Rhode Island coast. Surf casters are scoring fish at the Rhode Island breachways and from the surf. Boat fishermen are doing well at daybreak with trolled tube and worm combos. Three-way live pogies or eels on the rips has been productive as is working parachutes on wire.

The race is providing mixed striper and bluefish action. Some large bass and slammer blues are being taken at Valiant Rock, Plumb Gut and, of course, the Montauk Rips.

Long Sand Shoal, the rips at Cornfield Point, and Hatchetts are producing their fair share of medium stripers with some larger fish and occasionally, some blues.

Offshore action is switching from sharking to tuna. Albacore and yellowfin are being found along temperature breaks, if you can locate them. It is still a long ride to find the tuna, but hopefully, they will move closer to the inshore grounds.

GOOD LUCK AND GOOD FISHING.

Turners Wiffleball League Seeks Teams & Player For Fall League

Turners Wiffleball League is seeking teams and players for its fall league. Games will be played on Saturday and Sunday mornings through October.

The league games are played at the Springfield Turnverein, which is located on Garden Street in Agawam.

For more information, please call the Wiffleball commissioner, Dean Hoppe, at 789-3677.

Come and join the fun!

Thomas DalMolin Golf Tourney Slated For September 13th

The annual Thomas DalMolin Golf Tournament will be held on Sunday, September 13th, at the Agawam Country Club.

Start time is 9:30 a.m. The cost of the event is \$65 and includes golf fees, cart, lunch, a steak dinner at Ferruccio's, and prizes.

Proceeds will benefit the Thomas DalMolin Scholarship Fund. Anyone interested in sponsoring a tee or in registering for the tournament can do so by calling Kip at 786-9773 or Mary Lou at 786-1959.

Jimmy Broderick Wins Riverside's Modified 1998 Championship

*Eddy Carroll III Captures Third
Consecutive Pro Stock Title*

As Ricky Miller pulled his car into Victory Lane for the second time this season, Brookfield, Connecticut's Jimmy Broderick finished second, capturing the 1998 NAPA Modified Division Championship at Riverside Park Speedway. Eddy Carroll III of Suffield, Connecticut reached a milestone of his own by wrapping up his third consecutive Pro Stock Division Championship.

Eddy Spiers, who led Broderick by a mere two points heading into September 5th's race, stayed close to Broderick all night until he spun out with eight laps remaining. For Broderick, it is his fourth Track Championship in the last four years - at three different tracks.

Broderick won the 1995 and 1996 Waterford Speed Bowl Titles, and the 1997 Stafford Motor Speedway Championship before entering the NAPA Modified Division at Riverside Park in 1998. Broderick will be awarded with \$10,000 at Riverside Park Speedway's banquet on January 9, 1999.

Miller, the hottest Modified driver at Riverside Park over the final seven weeks of the 1998 season, took the checkered flag ahead of Broderick, Renee Dupuis, five-time Track Champion Bob Polverari, and Ted Christopher in fifth.

For Carroll, his third Pro Stock Points Title came after a ninth place finish, giving him the honors by only two points over Somers, Connecticut native Todd Owen. Carroll's Championship was in doubt a few times during the race, as he left the race track twice for repairs, and was forced to battle his way from the back of the field.

The 150-lap distances for the NAPA Modifieds and Serv-U Auto Supply Pro Stocks were the final installments of the Budweiser Triple Crown Series at Riverside Park Speedway. With his win, Miller won the Modified portion and the accompanying \$2,000 prize. Barry Gray, also a feature winner in the Serv-U Auto Supply Pro Stock division, won the Pro Stock Triple Crown and received a \$1,000 bonus.

The Teddy Bear Pools Truck Division finished out its inaugural season by crowning Ted Chalmers as its first Champion. Chalmers, who resides in Holyoke, has been competing at Riverside Park for 35 years and announced he will retire following his Championship. PJ Pelc of South Deerfield won the 30-lap feature, followed by Rob Valerio, Chalmers, Mike Duquette, and EJ Legacy in fifth place.

The 1998 Sportsman title went to Berlin, Connecticut's Joh Waterhouse after he finished seventh in the 25-lap feature. The feature winner was Rick Leavitt, who earned his second win of the 1998 season. Dennis Charette made a valiant effort to win the Sportsman points title by finishing second, but still fell two points shy of Waterhouse. Doug Goetz was third, followed by Herb Carlon and Beau LeBeau in fifth.

There was history in the making in the Figure 8 Division as Betty Anne Dobosz became the third woman ever to win a Track Championship at Riverside Park Speedway. Brian Montgomery won his third race of the year, but could not catch Dobosz in the point standings. Bob Pinette was second, followed by Erik Cornstock, Don Pinette, and Dobosz.

NASCAR Racing returns to Riverside Park Speedway on October 31st and November 1st with the Enfield Pontiac 400. "Tour Type" Modifieds and SK Modifieds will headline the eight-division program, along with Pro Stocks, Outlaw Late Models, Trucks, Sportsman, Super Stocks, and Outlaw Mini Stocks.

AGAWAM TIGERS - from Page 42...

net early in the first half.

Forwards Melissa Savenko and Jennifer Sharpe were strong up front for Agawam in this one, and the midfield group of Aimee Beaudette, Whitney Brown, Nicole Gendreau, Victoria Ruhl, Ellen Rannenberg, Sabrina Brizzolari, and Meaghan Brown dominated the all-important middle.

The final regular game of the tournament was a 1-0 win over always-tough West Springfield. Kaitlin Sardella scored off Ellen Rannenberg's corner kick following a wild scramble in front of the net for the game's only tally early in the game.

The rest of the way was ragged at times. West Side came to play and only came close to scoring on one occasion. Of course, goalie Vicky Taylor was well up to the task.

Coaching in their last Riverside Classic for the Tigers were Ed Brown, Joe Ruhl, and Frank Fitchben.

ATTENTION SOCCER COACHES PIONEER VALLEY TEAMS: We will once again accept small write-ups and updates of your team to be printed in the "Sports" pages each week. The deadline is Tuesday at 12:00 noon. Please type (double-spaced) or print very legibly. We will assemble all the little articles under the "Pioneer Valley Soccer" headline each week.

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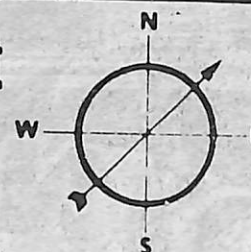
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WANTED: Mature, reliable woman to babysit my 4 yr. old girl every Friday, 8:15 a.m. to approx. 4:00 p.m. My Agawam home or yours. Nearby Suffield calls welcome. Need to start Friday, Sept. 25th. Please call Debbie at 789-0591.

HELP WANTED: Part-time positions in Suffield & Enfield. Pick your area. No weekends. Start between 3:30 p.m. & 5:30 p.m. M-F. Commercial cleaning. We offer paid holidays/training. (860) 741-0827.

WANTED: Need ride to Stop & Shop for grocery shopping. Live one mile from Stop & Shop. Tel. 786-1377.

HELP WANTED: Part-time waitress, dishwasher, and saute chef for days & evenings. Call 789-1917.

DISTRIBUTORS WANTED: IntelCom, Inc., 1-413-788-7007. Dial 1 long distance; 8.9 cents per min. State to state, 18 sec. min., 6 sec. billing. 24 hrs. a day, 7 days a week. No codes, no fees; business & residential. "We're not just all talk."

HELP WANTED: Food Service-Suffield, CT School Lunch; Part-time Substitute Positions; 2 1/2-3 hours per day as needed; M-F; Call 668-3825 for application.

LAND WANTED - SUFFIELD: Dry open acreage wanted (5 to 20 acres) to build home and private horse farm. Call (860) 668-0017.

PETS

PET SITTING: Need a pet sitter worth their weight in gold for honesty and caring? Call 789-1703. Will give personal care to your pet and spot-check your home.

TAG SALE

TAG SALE: Multi-family. Sept. 12 & 13, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Northwood Street, Feeding Hills. Something for everyone!

PERSONAL

PRAYER TO ST. JUDE For favor received. Publication promised. Thank-you. H.M.

Agawam School Department Positions Available Elementary Lunch Room Monitors Substitute Lunch Room Monitors

Please apply at the:
Agawam Public Schools
Mr. Donald J. Charest,
Associate Superintendent
1305 Springfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030
Applications will be accepted until
September 21, 1998.

INVITATION FOR SNOW REMOVAL QUOTES AGAWAM HOUSING AUTHORITY

Open competitive quotes sought for snow plowing and snow removal at seven locations until Monday, September 21, 1998 at 3:00 P.M. at the office of the Agawam Housing Authority at 66 Meadowbrook Manor, Agawam, MA 01001. Specifications are available at the office upon request. Acceptable contractor(s) will supply necessary insurance documentation as required.

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